S/INF/61

United Nations

Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council

1 August 2005 – 31 July 2006

Security Council
Official Records

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NOTE

The present volume of *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council* contains the resolutions adopted and the decisions taken by the Council on substantive questions during the period from 1 August 2005 to 31 July 2006, as well as decisions on some of the more important procedural matters. The resolutions and decisions are set out in parts I and II, under general headings indicating the questions under consideration. In each part, the questions are arranged according to the date on which they were first taken up by the Council during the period under review, and under each question the resolutions and decisions appear in chronological order.

The resolutions are numbered in the order of their adoption. Each resolution is followed by the result of the vote. Decisions are usually taken without a vote.

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Membership of the Security Council in 2005 and 2006

In 2005 and 2006, the membership of the Security Council was as follows:

2005	2006
Algeria	Argentina
Argentina	China
Benin	Congo
Brazil	Denmark
China	France
Denmark	Ghana
France	Greece
Greece	Japan
Japan	Peru
Philippines	Qatar
Romania	Russian Federation
Russian Federation	Slovakia
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United Republic of Tanzania	United Republic of Tanzania
United States of America	United States of America

Resolutions adopted and decisions taken by the Security Council from 1 August 2005 to 31 July 2006

Part I. Questions considered by the Security Council under its responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security

REPORTS OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE SUDAN[1]

Decisions

At its 5245th meeting, on 2 August 2005, the Security Council decided to invite the representative of the Sudan to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled "Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan".

At the same meeting, following consultations among members of the Security Council, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:[2]

"The Security Council expresses its profound regret over the death of the First Vice-President of the Sudan Mr. John Garang de Mabior in a helicopter crash on 30 July 2005. The Council offers its deepest sympathy and condolences to the family of Mr. Garang and to the people and Government of the Sudan.

"This is a time for the world community to come together to support Mr. Garang's vision of a united and peaceful Sudan. The Council commends the perseverance and commitment which the parties in the Sudan demonstrated in achieving the Comprehensive Peace Agreement[3] and the promise of a new future. Over the last few years, Mr. Garang's courageous efforts were instrumental in ending the over 21-year civil war that cost the lives of millions of Sudanese. His leadership offered hope for democracy and peace for all people of the Sudan.

"The Council calls upon all Sudanese to honour his memory by restoring peace and calm throughout the Sudan. The Council trusts that, despite the sudden death of Mr. Garang, the people of the Sudan remain united and continue to work for the consolidation of peace in the country by implementing the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, for which Mr. Garang worked unstintingly.

"The Council stresses that the death of Mr. Garang should not deter the struggle of the Sudanese people for justice and dignity, and encourages the people of the Sudan to refrain from violence and maintain peace in the midst of mourning.

"The Council reiterates its determination to assist the Sudanese people in their efforts to promote national reconciliation, resolve the conflict in Darfur and restore peace and stability throughout the country, and to build a prosperous and united Sudan.

"The Council looks to the international community to continue its support for the people of the Sudan to implement the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, to resolve the humanitarian crisis in Darfur, and to proceed with the reconstruction and rehabilitation process."

At its 5269th meeting, on 23 September 2005, the Council considered the item entitled:

"Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan

"Report of the Secretary-General on the Sudan (S/2005/579)".

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[1] Resolutions or decisions on this question were also adopted by the Security Council in 2004 and during the period from 1 January to 31 July 2005.

[2] S/PRST/2005/38.

[3] S/2005/78, annex.

Resolution 1627 (2005)
of 23 September 2005

The Security Council,

Recalling its previous resolutions, in particular resolution 1590 (2005) of 24 March 2005, and the statements by its President concerning the Sudan,

Reaffirming its commitment to the sovereignty, unity, independence and territorial integrity of the Sudan,

Reiterating its expression of sympathy and condolences on the death of First Vice-President John Garang de Mabior on 30 July 2005, and commending the Government of the Sudan and First Vice-President Salva Kiir Mayardit for continued efforts for the consolidation of peace in the Sudan,

Welcoming implementation by the Government of the Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement of 9 January 2005,[3] and in particular welcoming the formation of the Government of National Unity as a significant and historic step towards lasting peace in the Sudan,

Urging the parties to meet their outstanding commitments under the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, including, as a priority, the establishment of the Assessment and Evaluation Commission,

Determining that the situation in the Sudan continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security,

Acknowledging the commitments by troop-contributing countries in support of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan, and encouraging deployment in order for the Mission to support timely implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement,

1. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan until 24 March 2006, with the intention to renew it for further periods;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Security Council every three months on the implementation of the mandate of the Mission, including its work to reinforce the efforts of the African Union Mission in the Sudan to foster peace in Darfur;

3. *Urges* troop-contributing countries to review carefully the letter dated 24 March 2005 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly[4] and to take appropriate action to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse by their personnel in the United Nations Mission in the Sudan, including predeployment awareness training, and to take disciplinary action and other action to ensure full accountability in cases of such misconduct involving their personnel;

4. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

Adopted unanimously at the 5269th meeting.

Decisions

At its 5277th meeting, on 13 October 2005, the Security Council considered the item entitled "Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan".

At the same meeting, following consultations among members of the Security Council, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:[5]

[4] A/59/710.

[5] S/PRST/2005/48.

"The Security Council expresses its grave concern at recent reports of an upsurge of violence in Darfur by all sides and insists that all parties strictly abide by the demands and commitments made in the N'djamena ceasefire agreement of 8 April 2004, the resolutions of the Council and the Abuja Protocols. The Council strongly condemns the attack of 8 October 2005 reportedly by the Sudan Liberation Movement/Army on personnel of the African Union Mission in the Sudan in Darfur, which killed four Nigerian peacekeepers and two civilian contractors and wounded three others near Menawasha, and the attack of 9 October 2005 reportedly by the Justice and Equality Movement in Tine in Northern Darfur, which resulted in the ambush and detention of approximately 35 Mission personnel. The Council extends its deepest condolences to the families of those killed.

"The Council also condemns the attack of 25 September 2005 in Modaina, Chad, by armed groups coming from the Sudan, which killed 75 people, the majority of them civilians. The Council joins with the African Union in expressing particular outrage at the attack of 19 September 2005 by Darfur rebels against the town of Sheiara, the attack by Janjaweed militias on the camp for displaced persons at Aro Sharow on 28 September 2005, during which 29 people were killed and many more wounded, and the attack on the village of Tawilla by Sudanese government forces on 29 September 2005.

"The Council expresses its deep concern at the humanitarian impact that these developments cause and at the restrictions imposed on humanitarian operations in Darfur. The Council insists that restrictions end immediately and strongly urges all parties to ensure unhindered humanitarian access in Darfur.

"The Council also expresses its concern that in the report of the Secretary-General of 19 September 2005[6] it was stated that there had been 'no visible effort by the Government [of the Sudan] to disarm the militia or hold them to account in accordance with past agreements and Security Council resolutions [...]. The SLM/A [Sudan Liberation Movement/Army] and the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) are also failing to abide by the commitments made under past agreements and are doing far too little to control their men under arms.' The Council recalls the obligation undertaken by the Government of the Sudan to disarm and control militias. It demands that the Sudan Liberation Movement/Army, the Justice and Equality Movement and the Government of the Sudan immediately cease violence, comply with the N'djamena ceasefire agreement, end impediments to the peace process and cooperate fully with the African Union Mission in the Sudan. The Council again emphasizes the need to bring to justice those who perpetrate violence.

"The Council recalls the provisions of its resolution 1591 (2005) concerning the Sudan. It urges the African Union to share the results of its investigations into recent attacks with the Council for possible referral to the Sudan sanctions committee in order to assist in the implementation of the provisions of the relevant Council resolutions.

"The Council expresses its unequivocal support for the African Union Mission in the Sudan, and recalls that the Government of the Sudan and Darfur rebel movements have to take the necessary steps to facilitate the deployment and effectiveness of the Mission.

"The Council remains firmly committed to the cause of peace in all of the Sudan, including through the Abuja talks and through full implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement.[3] It encourages the Government of National Unity and the Darfur rebels to engage in the search for a solution to the Darfur conflict. It urges all parties to make rapid progress at the Abuja talks to conclude a peace agreement without further delay."

At its 5321st meeting, on 13 December 2005, the Council considered the item entitled "Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan".

[6] S/2005/592.

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Luis Moreno-Ocampo, Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court.

At its 5322nd meeting, held in private on 13 December 2005, the Council decided to authorize its President to issue through the Secretary-General the following communiqué, in accordance with rule 55 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council:

> "At its 5322nd meeting, held in private on 13 December 2005, the Security Council considered the item entitled 'Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan'.
>
> "In accordance with the decision taken at the 5321st meeting, the President extended an invitation under rule 39 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council to Mr. Luis Moreno-Ocampo, Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court.
>
> "The members of the Council and Mr. Moreno-Ocampo had an exchange of views after the briefing."

At its 5342nd meeting, on 21 December 2005, the Council considered the item entitled "Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan".

Resolution 1651 (2005)
of 21 December 2005

The Security Council,

Recalling its previous resolutions concerning the situation in the Sudan, in particular resolutions 1556 (2004) of 30 July 2004 and 1591 (2005) of 29 March 2005, and the statements by its President concerning the Sudan,

Stressing its firm commitment to the cause of peace throughout the Sudan, including through the African Union-led inter-Sudanese peace talks in Abuja ("Abuja Talks"), full implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement,[3] and an end to the violence and atrocities in Darfur,

Urging all parties to the Abuja Talks to reach without further delay an agreement that will establish a basis for peace, reconciliation, stability and justice in the Sudan,

Recalling the midterm briefing of 7 October 2005 by the Panel of Experts appointed by the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 3 (*b*) of resolution 1591 (2005), and anticipating the receipt of its final report,

Emphasizing the need to respect the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations concerning privileges and immunities, and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[7] as applicable to United Nations operations and persons engaged in such operations,

Reaffirming its commitment to the sovereignty, unity, independence and territorial integrity of the Sudan, and recalling the importance of the principles of good-neighbourliness, non-interference and cooperation in the relations among States in the region,

Determining that the situation in the Sudan continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security in the region,

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter,

1. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Panel of Experts appointed pursuant to resolution 1591 (2005) until 29 March 2006, and requests the Secretary-General to take the necessary administrative measures;

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[7] General Assembly resolution 22 A (I).

2. *Requests* the Panel of Experts to report and make recommendations to the Security Council, through the Committee established pursuant to paragraph 3 (*a*) of resolution 1591 (2005), prior to the termination of its mandate, on the implementation of the measures imposed by paragraphs 7 and 8 of resolution 1556 (2004) and paragraphs 3, 6 and 7 of resolution 1591 (2005);

3. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

Adopted unanimously at the 5342nd meeting.

Decisions

At the 5342nd meeting also, following the adoption of resolution 1651 (2005), the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:[8]

"The Security Council welcomes the commencement in Abuja of the seventh round of the African Union-led inter-Sudanese peace talks on Darfur, and expresses its appreciation to the African Union, the international community and the other donors.

"The Council is encouraged by the active participation of representatives from all invited groups of the Sudan Liberation Movement/Army and the Justice and Equality Movement, as well as members of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement, as part of the Government of National Unity, and urges their continued cooperation with the African Union Mission in the Sudan and with the United Nations Mission in the Sudan.

"The Council calls upon all parties to the conflict to fulfil their commitments to conclude a just and full peace accord without further delay. The Council demands that all parties refrain from violence and put an end to atrocities on the ground, especially those committed against civilians, including women and children, humanitarian workers and international peacekeepers.

"The Council recalls the demands on the Government of the Sudan and the rebel forces, as well as other armed groups, to respect fully their commitments referred to in its recent resolutions. The Council demands, in particular, that the Sudan Liberation Movement/Army, the Justice and Equality Movement and the Government of the Sudan immediately cease violence, comply with the N'djamena ceasefire agreement, end impediments to the peace process and cooperate fully with the African Union Mission in the Sudan, and that the Government of the Sudan disarm and control militias. It further demands that those responsible for violations of human rights and international humanitarian law be brought to justice without delay.

"The Council recalls its concern that the persisting violence in Darfur might further negatively affect the region, in particular the security of Chad. It firmly condemns, in this context, recent attacks perpetrated by armed elements within Chad and in particular the attack of 18 December 2005 on positions of the Chadian national army in the town of Adré, and supports efforts to reduce tensions on the border.

"The Council reaffirms its determination to make full use of existing measures under its relevant resolutions on the Sudan, including holding accountable those responsible for violence and violations of the arms embargo, and those who impede the peace process.

"The Council expresses its gratitude to the African Union and its Mission in the Sudan for the positive role that its forces have played in reducing violence and promoting the restoration of order in Darfur.

"The Council also appeals to donors to continue both to support the crucial work of the African Union Mission in the Sudan in stemming the violence in this suffering region and to

[8] S/PRST/2005/67.

provide critical humanitarian assistance to millions of war-afflicted civilians in Darfur and across the border in Chad.

"In the broader Sudan context, the Council welcomes further progress achieved in the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement,[3] in particular the signing of the Constitution for Southern Sudan and the formation of the Government of Southern Sudan."

On 6 January 2006, the President of the Security Council addressed the following letter to the Secretary-General:[9]

"I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 4 January 2006 concerning your intention to appoint Lieutenant General Jasbir Singh Lidder, of India, as Force Commander of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan[10] has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the intention expressed in your letter."

At its 5344th meeting, on 13 January 2006, the Council considered the item entitled:

"Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan

"Report of the Secretary-General on the Sudan (S/2005/821)

"Monthly report of the Secretary-General on Darfur (S/2005/825)".

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council decided to extend invitations, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Jan Pronk, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Sudan and Head of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan, and to Mr. Salim A. Salim, Special Envoy of the African Union for the Inter-Sudanese Peace Talks on the Conflict in Darfur.

At its 5345th meeting, held in private on 13 January 2006, the Council decided to authorize its President to issue through the Secretary-General the following communiqué, in accordance with rule 55 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council:

"At its 5345th meeting, held in private on 13 January 2006, the Security Council considered the item entitled 'Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan'.

"In accordance with the decision taken at the 5344th meeting, the President extended invitations under rule 39 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council to Mr. Jan Pronk, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Sudan and Head of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan, and to Mr. Salim A. Salim, Special Envoy of the African Union for the Inter-Sudanese Peace Talks on the Conflict in Darfur.

"Members of the Council, Mr. Pronk and Mr. Salim had an exchange of views."

At its 5364th meeting, on 3 February 2006, the Council considered the item entitled "Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan".

At the same meeting, following consultations among members of the Security Council, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:[11]

"The Security Council commends the efforts of the African Union for successful deployment of the African Union Mission in the Sudan and for significant contribution to the provision of a secure environment for civilians and the humanitarian situation in Darfur. The Council welcomes the recognition by the Peace and Security Council of the African

[9] S/2006/9.

[10] S/2006/8.

[11] S/PRST/2006/5.

Union of the partnership between the African Union and the United Nations in the promotion of peace, security and stability in Africa.

"The Security Council takes note of the communiqué of 12 January 2006 issued by the Peace and Security Council, in which it expressed its support, in principle, for a transition from the African Union Mission in the Sudan to a United Nations operation and requested the Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union to initiate consultations with the United Nations and other stakeholders on this matter.

"The Security Council therefore requests the Secretary-General to initiate contingency planning without delay, jointly with the African Union, in close and continuing consultation with the Council, and in cooperation and close consultation with the parties to the Abuja Peace Talks, including the Government of National Unity, on a range of options for a possible transition from the African Union Mission in the Sudan to a United Nations operation. Such planning should be undertaken on the basis of a unified, integrated approach; of maximum use of existing resources of the African Union Mission in the Sudan and the United Nations Mission in the Sudan, subject to the agreement of troop-contributing countries; of an assessment, to be confirmed by the Council, of the essential tasks to be carried out in southern Sudan and Darfur with a view to reallocating existing troops and assets to the maximum extent practicable; and of a readiness to review and adjust the current structure of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan, including command and control and logistics, at the earliest opportunity, to make the best use of available resources when the African Union deems a transition feasible and agreeable. The Council will be engaged throughout this process.

"The Security Council emphasizes the importance of maintaining strong support for the African Union Mission in the Sudan until any eventual transition is completed. The Council looks forward to an early decision from the Peace and Security Council and will keep this issue under consideration with a view to reviewing the options submitted by the Secretary-General.

"The Security Council stresses the importance of urgently reaching a successful conclusion of the Abuja Peace Talks and calls upon all parties to negotiate in good faith in order to reach a peace accord as soon as possible. The Council reiterates in the strongest terms the need for all parties in Darfur to end the violence and atrocities. The Council demands that all parties to the Darfur conflict cooperate fully with the African Union Mission in the Sudan and fulfil all the obligations to which they have committed themselves."

At its 5392nd meeting, on 21 March 2006, the Council considered the item entitled:

"Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan

"Monthly report of the Secretary-General on Darfur (S/2006/148)

"Report of the Secretary-General on the Sudan (S/2006/160)".

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Jan Pronk, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Sudan and Head of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan.

At its 5396th meeting, on 24 March 2006, the Council considered the item entitled:

"Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan

"Monthly report of the Secretary-General on Darfur (S/2006/148)

"Report of the Secretary-General on the Sudan (S/2006/160)".

Resolution 1663 (2006)
of 24 March 2006

The Security Council,

Recalling its previous resolutions, in particular resolutions 1627 (2005) of 23 September 2005 and 1653 (2006) of 27 January 2006, and the statements by its President, in particular that of 3 February 2006,[11] concerning the situation in the Sudan,

Reaffirming its commitment to the sovereignty, unity, independence and territorial integrity of the Sudan,

Welcoming implementation by the parties of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement of 9 January 2005,[3] and urging them to meet their commitments,

Acknowledging the commitments by troop-contributing countries in support of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan, and encouraging deployment in order for the Mission to support timely implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement,

Reiterating in the strongest terms the need for all parties to the conflict in Darfur to put an end to the violence and atrocities,

Stressing the importance of urgently reaching a successful conclusion of the Abuja Peace Talks, and calling upon the parties to conclude a peace agreement as soon as possible,

Welcoming the communiqué of 10 March 2006 issued by the Peace and Security Council of the African Union at its forty-sixth meeting,[12] and the decision of that Council to support in principle the transition of the African Union Mission in the Sudan to a United Nations operation within the framework of partnership between the African Union and the United Nations in the promotion of peace, security and stability in Africa, to pursue the conclusion of a peace agreement on Darfur by the end of April 2006, and to extend the mandate of the African Union Mission in the Sudan until 30 September 2006,

Expressing its deep concern at the movement of arms and armed groups across borders, such as the long-running and brutal insurgency by the Lord's Resistance Army, which has caused the death, abduction and displacement of many innocent civilians in the Sudan,

Determining that the situation in the Sudan continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security,

1. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan until 24 September 2006, with the intention to renew it for further periods;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Security Council every three months on the implementation of the mandate of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan;

3. *Reiterates its request*, made in paragraph 2 of its resolution 1590 (2005) of 24 March 2005, that the United Nations Mission in the Sudan closely and continuously liaise and coordinate at all levels with the African Union Mission in the Sudan, and urges it to intensify its efforts in this regard;

4. *Requests* that the Secretary-General, jointly with the African Union, in close and continuing consultation with the Council, and in cooperation and close consultation with the parties to the Abuja Peace Talks, including the Government of National Unity, expedite the necessary preparatory planning for transition of the African Union Mission in the Sudan to a United Nations operation, including options for how the United Nations Mission in the Sudan can reinforce the effort for peace in Darfur through additional appropriate transitional assistance to the African Union Mission in the Sudan, including assistance in logistics, mobility and

[12] S/2006/156, annex.

communications, and that the Secretary-General present to the Council by 24 April 2006 for its consideration a range of options for a United Nations operation in Darfur;

5. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the maximum possible assistance to the African Union Mission in the Sudan;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the African Union to consult with international and regional organizations and member States to identify resources to support the African Union Mission in the Sudan during transition to a United Nations operation;

7. *Strongly condemns* the activities of militias and armed groups such as the Lord's Resistance Army, which continue to attack civilians and commit human rights abuses in the Sudan, and in this regard urges the United Nations Mission in the Sudan to make full use of its current mandate and capabilities;

8. *Recalls* resolution 1653 (2006) and its request that the Secretary-General make recommendations to the Council, and looks forward to receiving by 24 April 2006 those recommendations which would include proposals on how United Nations agencies and missions, in particular the United Nations Mission in the Sudan, could more effectively address the problem of the Lord's Resistance Army;

9. *Encourages* the Sudanese parties to finalize the establishment of national institutions for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants, as stipulated in the Comprehensive Peace Agreement,[3] and to expedite the development of a comprehensive disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme, with the assistance of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan as provided for in resolution 1590 (2005);

10. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

Adopted unanimously at the 5396th meeting.

Decision

At its 5402nd meeting, on 29 March 2006, the Security Council considered the item entitled:

"Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan

> "Letter dated 30 January 2006 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1591 (2005) concerning the Sudan addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2006/65)".

Resolution 1665 (2006)
of 29 March 2006

The Security Council,

Recalling its previous resolutions concerning the situation in the Sudan, in particular resolutions 1556 (2004) of 30 July 2004, 1591 (2005) of 29 March 2005 and 1651 (2005) of 21 December 2005, and the statements by its President concerning the Sudan,

Stressing again its firm commitment to the cause of peace throughout the Sudan, including through the African Union-led inter-Sudanese peace talks in Abuja ("Abuja Talks"), full implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement of 9 January 2005,[3] and an end to the violence and atrocities in Darfur,

Urging all parties to the Abuja Talks to reach without further delay an agreement that will establish a basis for peace, reconciliation, stability and justice in the Sudan,

Commending the efforts of, and reiterating its full support for, the African Union, the Secretary-General and the leaders of the region to promote peace and stability in Darfur,

Taking note of the observations and recommendations contained in the report of 9 December 2005 of the Panel of Experts appointed by the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 3 (*b*) of

resolution 1591 (2005) and extended by paragraph 1 of resolution 1651 (2005),[13] anticipating the receipt of the second report of the Panel currently under consideration by the Security Council Committee established pursuant to paragraph 3 (*a*) of resolution 1591 (2005), and expressing its intent to study further the recommendations of the Panel and to consider appropriate next steps,

Emphasizing the need to respect the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations concerning privileges and immunities, and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[7] as applicable to United Nations operations and persons engaged in such operations,

Reaffirming its commitment to the sovereignty, unity, independence and territorial integrity of the Sudan, and recalling the importance of the principles of good-neighbourliness, non-interference and cooperation in the relations among States in the region,

Determining that the situation in the Sudan continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security in the region,

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter,

1. *Decides* to extend until 29 September 2006 the mandate of the Panel of Experts originally appointed pursuant to resolution 1591 (2005) and extended by resolution 1651 (2005), and requests the Secretary-General to take the necessary administrative measures;

2. *Requests* the Panel of Experts to provide, no later than ninety days after the adoption of the present resolution, a midterm briefing on its work to the Security Council Committee established pursuant to paragraph 3 (*a*) of resolution 1591 (2005), and a final report to the Council no later than thirty days prior to the termination of its mandate, with its findings and recommendations;

3. *Urges* all States, relevant United Nations bodies, the African Union and other interested parties to cooperate fully with the Committee and the Panel of Experts, in particular by supplying any information at their disposal on implementation of the measures imposed by resolutions 1556 (2004) and 1591 (2005);

4. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

Adopted unanimously at the 5402nd meeting.

Decisions

At its 5409th meeting, on 11 April 2006, the Security Council considered the item entitled "Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan".

At the same meeting, following consultations among members of the Security Council, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:[14]

> "The Security Council strongly commends the efforts of the African Union to achieve lasting peace in Darfur, which have its full support. It reiterates in the strongest terms the need for all parties to the conflict in Darfur to put an immediate end to the violence and atrocities; reaffirms its concern that the persisting violence in Darfur might further negatively affect the rest of the country as well as the region, including the security of Chad; and expresses its utmost concern over the dire consequences of the prolonged conflict in Darfur for the civilian population.
>
> "The Security Council regrets the decision of the Government of National Unity not to renew the contract of the Norwegian Refugee Council and expresses its grave concern over the humanitarian consequences. It also regrets the decision of the Government of National

[13] See S/2006/65, annex.

[14] S/PRST/2006/16.

Unity to deny the entry of the United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator to Darfur. It looks forward to the forthcoming briefing by the Emergency Relief Coordinator and to his being able to visit Darfur at the earliest possible opportunity. The Council also calls for an explanation from the Government of National Unity on its decision.

"The Security Council reiterates its full support for the Inter-Sudanese Peace Talks on the Conflict in Darfur in Abuja, noting that an inclusive political settlement is key to peace in the Sudan, that the Talks provide a mechanism to achieve such a settlement and that the African Union should maintain leadership. It welcomes the timely involvement of the Chair of the African Union and the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria in the Talks during their visit to Abuja on 8 April 2006; endorses the decision of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union that 30 April 2006 is the final deadline for reaching an agreement; demands that all parties make the necessary efforts to reach an agreement by this date; and reaffirms its determination to hold accountable those impeding the peace process and committing human rights violations, noting the view of the African Union that the Security Council has a critical role in this respect.

"The Security Council commends the African Union for what the African Union Mission in the Sudan has successfully achieved in Darfur despite exceptionally difficult circumstances, and the efforts of Member States and organizations that have assisted the Mission. It reiterates its welcome, in resolution 1663 (2006) of 24 March 2006, for the decision of the Peace and Security Council of 10 March 2006 to support in principle the transition of the Mission to a United Nations operation and to extend the mandate of the Mission until 30 September 2006;[12] calls, therefore, upon all parties to take all necessary measures to ensure a smooth and successful transfer to a United Nations operation; urges Member States and international and regional organizations to provide additional assistance to the Mission so that it may be strengthened in line with the conclusions of the report of the joint assessment mission of 10 to 20 December 2005; and calls for the convening of a pledging conference.

"The Security Council reiterates its commitment to the sovereignty, unity, independence and territorial integrity of the Sudan, which will be unaffected by the transition to a United Nations operation.

"The Security Council stresses that the Secretary-General should consult jointly with the African Union, in close and continuing consultation with the Council, and in cooperation and close consultation with the parties to the Abuja Peace Talks, including the Government of National Unity, on decisions concerning the transition; stresses that a United Nations operation will have strong African participation and character; recalls its request, in resolution 1663 (2006), that the Secretary-General expedite the necessary preparatory planning for the transition of the African Union Mission in the Sudan to a United Nations operation; in this regard, calls for a United Nations assessment mission to visit Darfur by 30 April 2006; and calls upon international and regional organizations and Member States to provide every possible additional assistance to a United Nations operation."

At its 5413th meeting, on 18 April 2006, the Council considered the item entitled "Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan".

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Salim A. Salim, Special Envoy of the African Union for the Inter-Sudanese Peace Talks on the Conflict in Darfur and Chief Mediator.

At its 5414th meeting, held in private on 18 April 2006, the Council decided to authorize its President to issue through the Secretary-General the following communiqué, in accordance with rule 55 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council:

"At its 5414th meeting, held in private on 18 April 2006, the Security Council considered the item entitled 'Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan'.

"Pursuant to the decision taken at the 5413th meeting, the President, with the consent of the Council, extended an invitation under rule 39 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council to Mr. Salim A. Salim, Special Envoy of the African Union for the Inter-Sudanese Peace Talks on the Conflict in Darfur and Chief Mediator.

"Members of the Council and Mr. Salim had an exchange of views."

At its 5422nd meeting, on 25 April 2006, the Council considered the item entitled "Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan".

At the same meeting, following consultations among members of the Security Council, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:[15]

"The Security Council reaffirms its commitment to the sovereignty, unity, independence and territorial integrity of the Sudan.

"The Council strongly commends and supports the efforts of the African Union to achieve lasting peace in Darfur. It reiterates in the strongest terms the need for all parties to the conflict in Darfur to put an immediate end to the violence and atrocities, reaffirms its concern that the persisting violence in Darfur might further negatively affect the rest of the country as well as the region, including the security of Chad, and expresses its utmost concern over the dire consequences of the prolonged conflict in Darfur for the civilian population. It further reaffirms the right of the displaced persons to return to their homes if they wish to do so.

"The Council reiterates its full support for the African Union-led Inter-Sudanese Peace Talks on the Conflict in Darfur in Abuja, in particular the tireless efforts of the Chief Mediator, Mr. Salim A. Salim and his team. It welcomes the developments so far in the negotiations and urges the parties to make speedy progress in concluding a Darfur peace accord.

"The Council further reiterates its endorsement of the decision of 10 March 2006 of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union that an accord must be reached by 30 April 2006[12] and strongly urges that all parties make the necessary efforts to reach an accord by this date.

"The Security Council recognizes that an inclusive political settlement is key to peace in the Sudan, and that the Talks provide a mechanism to achieve such a settlement in Darfur. The Council reiterates its call to all parties to the conflict to fulfil their commitments to conclude a peace accord in the interest of the people of Darfur and the Sudan as a whole.

"The Council calls upon and expects the parties in Abuja to consider in good faith proposals to be made by the Chief Mediator with a view to reaching peace, security and stability in Darfur and the Sudan as a whole. It emphasizes that working towards a positive outcome is a collective responsibility of all the parties to the conflict.

"The Council commends the various partners and stakeholders for their support to the African Union-led Abuja peace process and encourages them, in particular the United Nations, to continue supporting the parties in the implementation of the peace accord."

At its 5423rd meeting, on 25 April 2006, the Council considered the item entitled "Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan".

[15] S/PRST/2006/17.

Resolution 1672 (2006)
of 25 April 2006

The Security Council,

Recalling its previous resolutions concerning the situation in the Sudan, in particular resolutions 1556 (2004) of 30 July 2004, 1591 (2005) of 29 March 2005, 1651 (2005) of 21 December 2005 and 1665 (2006) of 29 March 2006, and the statements by its President concerning the Sudan,

Stressing again its firm commitment to the cause of peace throughout the Sudan, including through the African Union-led inter-Sudanese peace talks in Abuja ("Abuja Talks"), full implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement of 9 January 2005[3] and an end to the violence and atrocities in Darfur,

Determining that the situation in the Sudan continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security in the region,

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Decides* that all States shall implement the measures specified in paragraph 3 of resolution 1591 (2005) with respect to the following individuals:

- Major General Gaffar Mohamed Elhassan (Commander of the Western Military Region for the Sudanese Armed Forces)
- Sheikh Musa Hilal (Paramount Chief of the Jalul Tribe in North Darfur)
- Adam Yacub Shant (Sudanese Liberation Army Commander)
- Gabril Abdul Kareem Badri (National Movement for Reform and Development Field Commander);

2. *Decides also* to remain actively seized of the matter.

Adopted at the 5423rd meeting
by 12 votes to none, with 3 abstentions
(China, Qatar and Russian Federation).

Decisions

At its 5434th meeting, on 9 May 2006, the Security Council decided to invite the representatives of Austria, Canada, the Netherlands, Nigeria and the Sudan to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled "Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan".

At the same meeting, in response to the request dated 8 May 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations, the Council also decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Yahya A. Mahmassani, Permanent Observer of the League of Arab States to the United Nations.

At the same meeting, following consultations among members of the Security Council, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:[16]

> "The Security Council strongly welcomes the agreement of 5 May 2006 reached at the Inter-Sudanese Peace Talks in Abuja as a basis for lasting peace in Darfur; commends the signatories to the agreement; expresses its appreciation of the efforts of President Denis Sassou Nguesso of the Republic of the Congo, President Olusegun Obasanjo of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, in his capacity as host of the Talks, and the Special Envoy of the African Union and Chief Mediator Mr. Salim A. Salim; calls upon all the parties to respect

[16] S/PRST/2006/21.

their commitments and implement the agreement without delay; urges those movements that have not signed the agreement to do so without delay, noting the benefits it will bring them and the people of Darfur, and not to act in any way that would impede implementation of the agreement; and welcomes the forthcoming meeting of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union on 15 May 2006.

"The Security Council commends the African Union for what the African Union Mission in the Sudan has achieved in Darfur despite difficult circumstances; stresses the need for the Mission to be urgently further strengthened in line with the conclusions of the report of the joint assessment mission of 10 to 20 December 2005 so that it is able to support implementation of the Darfur Peace Agreement until a United Nations operation is deployed; calls, in this regard, for the Secretary-General and the African Union to convene a pledging conference without delay; and urges Member States and international and regional organizations to provide every possible assistance to the Mission.

"The Council stresses that the Secretary-General should consult jointly with the African Union, in close and continuing consultation with the Council, and in cooperation and close consultation with the parties to the Abuja Peace Talks, including the Government of National Unity, on decisions concerning the transition to a United Nations operation; looks forward to receiving from the Secretary-General at the earliest opportunity detailed planning proposals for a United Nations operation in Darfur; calls, in this regard, for the Government of National Unity to facilitate immediately the visit of a joint United Nations and African Union technical assessment mission to Darfur; encourages the Secretary-General to consult urgently with potential troop-contributing countries on the assets required for a United Nations operation; stresses that a United Nations operation should have strong African participation and character; and calls upon international and regional organizations and Member States to provide the United Nations operation with every possible assistance.

"The Council expresses its deep concern over the deteriorating humanitarian situation in Darfur; welcomes the visit of the United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator, Mr. Jan Egeland; expresses its deep concern at the shortfall in humanitarian funding; urges Member States to make additional funds available; and calls upon all the Sudanese parties to respect the neutrality, impartiality and independence of humanitarian assistance."

At its 5439th meeting, on 16 May 2006, the Council considered the item entitled "Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan".

Resolution 1679 (2006)
of 16 May 2006

The Security Council,

Recalling its previous resolutions concerning the situation in the Sudan, in particular resolutions 1556 (2004) of 30 July 2004, 1564 (2004) of 18 September 2004, 1574 (2004) of 19 November 2004, 1590 (2005) of 24 March 2005, 1591 (2005) of 29 March 2005, 1593 (2005) of 31 March 2005, 1663 (2006) of 24 March 2006 and 1665 (2006) of 29 March 2006, and the statements by its President concerning the Sudan, in particular the statements of 3 February[11] and 9 May 2006,[16]

Recalling also its resolution 1612 (2005) of 26 July 2005 on children and armed conflict, resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 on women and peace and security, resolution 1674 (2006) of 28 April 2006 on the protection of civilians in armed conflict and resolution 1502 (2003) of 26 August 2003 on the protection of humanitarian and United Nations personnel,

Reaffirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty, unity, independence and territorial integrity of the Sudan, which would be unaffected by transition to a United Nations operation, as well as of all States in the region, and to the cause of peace, security and reconciliation throughout the Sudan,

Expressing its utmost concern over the dire consequences of the prolonged conflict in Darfur for the civilian population, and reiterating in the strongest terms the need for all parties to the conflict in Darfur to put an immediate end to violence and atrocities,

Welcoming the success of the African Union-led Inter-Sudanese Peace Talks on the Conflict in Darfur in Abuja, in particular the framework agreed between the parties for a resolution of the conflict in Darfur (the Darfur Peace Agreement),

Commending the efforts of President Olusegun Obasanjo of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, host of the Talks; President Denis Sassou Nguesso of the Republic of the Congo, Chair of the African Union; Mr. Salim A. Salim, Special Envoy of the African Union for the Talks and Chief Mediator, the respective delegations to the Talks; and the signatories to the Darfur Peace Agreement,

Stressing the importance of full and rapid implementation of the Darfur Peace Agreement to restore a sustainable peace in Darfur, and welcoming the statement, made on 9 May 2006 by the representative of the Sudan at the special meeting of the Security Council on Darfur, of the Government of National Unity's full commitment to implementing the Darfur Peace Agreement,[17]

Reaffirming its concern that the persisting violence in Darfur might further negatively affect the rest of the Sudan, as well as the region, including the security of Chad,

Noting with deep concern the recent deterioration of relations between the Sudan and Chad, and urging the Governments of both countries to abide by their obligations under the Tripoli Agreement of 8 February 2006[18] and to implement the confidence-building measures which have been voluntarily agreed upon,

Commending the efforts of the African Union for successful deployment of the African Union Mission in the Sudan, despite exceptionally difficult circumstances, and the role of the Mission in reducing large-scale organized violence in Darfur, and commending further the efforts of Member States and regional and international organizations that have assisted the Mission in its deployment,

Taking note of the communiqués of 12 January, 10 March[12] and 15 May 2006[19] of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union regarding transition of the African Union Mission in the Sudan to a United Nations operation,

Stressing that a United Nations operation would have, to the extent possible, strong African participation and character,

Welcoming the efforts of Member States and regional and international organizations to maintain and strengthen their support to the Mission and potentially to a follow-on United Nations operation in Darfur, looking forward in particular to the convening of a pledging conference in June 2006, and appealing to African Union partners to provide the necessary support to the Mission to allow it to continue to perform its mandate during the transition,

Determining that the situation in the Sudan continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security,

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Calls upon* the parties to the Darfur Peace Agreement to respect their commitments and implement the Agreement without delay, urges those parties that have not signed the Agreement to do so without delay and not to act in any way that would impede implementation of

[17] See S/PV.5434.

[18] Tripoli Agreement to Settle the Dispute between the Republic of Chad and the Republic of the Sudan (S/2006/103, annex II).

[19] S/2006/307, annex.

the Agreement, and expresses its intention to consider taking, including in response to a request by the African Union, strong and effective measures, such as a travel ban and an assets freeze, against any individual or group that violates or attempts to block the implementation of the Agreement;

2. *Calls upon* the African Union to agree with the United Nations, regional and international organizations and Member States on requirements now necessary, in addition to those identified by the joint assessment mission of 10 to 20 December 2005, to strengthen the capacity of the African Union Mission in the Sudan to enforce the security arrangements of the Darfur Peace Agreement, with a view to a follow-on United Nations operation in Darfur;

3. *Endorses* the decision of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union in its communiqué of 15 May 2006[19] that, in view of the signing of the Darfur Peace Agreement, concrete steps should be taken to effect the transition from the African Union Mission in the Sudan to a United Nations operation, calls upon the parties to the Agreement to facilitate and work with the African Union, the United Nations, regional and international organizations and Member States to accelerate transition to a United Nations operation, and, to this end, reiterating the requests of the Secretary-General and the Security Council, calls for the deployment of a joint African Union and United Nations technical assessment mission within one week of the adoption of the present resolution;

4. *Stresses* that the Secretary-General should consult jointly with the African Union, in close and continuing consultation with the Council, and in cooperation and close consultation with the parties to the Darfur Peace Agreement, including the Government of National Unity, on decisions concerning the transition to a United Nations operation;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit recommendations to the Council within one week of the return of the joint African Union and United Nations technical assessment mission on all relevant aspects of the mandate of the United Nations operation in Darfur, including force structure, additional force requirements, potential troop-contributing countries and a detailed financial evaluation of future costs;

6. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

Adopted unanimously at the 5439th meeting.

Decisions

On 26 May 2006, the President of the Security Council addressed the following letter to the Secretary-General:[20]

> "I have the honour to inform you that the members of the Security Council have decided to send a mission to the Sudan and Chad from 4 to 10 June 2006. The mission will be led by Ambassador Emyr Jones Parry of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The members of the Council have agreed on the terms of reference of the mission, which are annexed hereto.
>
> "Following consultations with the members, it has been agreed that the composition of the mission is as follows:
>
> "United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (Ambassador Emyr Jones Parry, head of mission)
> "Argentina (Ambassador César Mayoral)
> "China (Ambassador Wang Guangya)
> "Congo (Ambassador Basile Ikouebe)
> "Denmark (Ambassador Lars Faaborg-Andersen)
> "France (Ambassador Jean-Marc de La Sablière)

[20] S/2006/341.

"Ghana (Ambassador Nana Effah-Apenteng)
"Greece (Ambassador Adamantios Th. Vassilakis)
"Japan (Ambassador Shinichi Kitaoka)
"Peru (Ambassador Oswaldo de Rivero)
"Qatar (Minister Jamal Nasser Al-Bader)
"Russian Federation (Minister Konstantin Dolgov)
"Slovakia (Ambassador Peter Burian)
"United Republic of Tanzania (Ambassador Augustine P. Mahiga)
"United States of America (Ambassador Jackie Wolcott Sanders)

"I should be grateful if you could have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

"**Annex**

"**Security Council mission to the Sudan, Chad and the African Union headquarters in Addis Ababa: terms of reference**

"**General**

- Demonstrate the Security Council's determination to work with the Government of the Sudan, the African Union and other parties to assist in tackling the various problems confronting the Sudan.

- Express the Security Council's utmost concern over the dire consequences of the prolonged conflict in Darfur for the civilian population, including the continuing humanitarian crisis, and the repercussions for the rest of the Sudan and the region; and reiterate in the strongest terms the need for all parties to the conflict to put an end to violence and atrocities.

- Reiterate the Security Council's commitment to the sovereignty, unity, independence and territorial integrity of the Sudan, which will be unaffected by the transition to a United Nations operation in Darfur.

- Raise global public awareness of the crisis in Darfur, as well as the efforts of the United Nations, and the Security Council, to tackle it.

- Reiterate the Security Council's welcome for the success of the African Union-led Inter-Sudanese Peace Talks on the Conflict in Darfur in Abuja, in particular the framework agreed between the parties for a resolution of the conflict in Darfur (the Darfur Peace Agreement).

- Stress the importance of full and rapid implementation of the Darfur Peace Agreement to restore a sustainable peace in Darfur.

- Call upon the parties to the Darfur Peace Agreement to respect their commitments and implement the Agreement without delay.

- Urge those parties that have not signed the Darfur Peace Agreement to do so without delay and not to act in any way that would impede implementation of the Agreement.

- Express the Security Council's intention to take, including in response to a request by the African Union, strong and effective measures, such as an assets freeze or a travel ban, against any individual or group that violates or attempts to block the implementation of the Darfur Peace Agreement or commits human rights violations.

- Stress the importance of launching the Darfur-Darfur dialogue as soon as possible with a wide range of stakeholders, in order to explain the Darfur Peace Agreement and enlist wider support for it.

- Call upon all relevant parties to take all necessary measures to ensure the continued effectiveness of the African Union Mission in the Sudan so that the Mission can support implementation of the Darfur Peace Agreement.
- Reiterate support for a transition to a United Nations operation as soon as possible, in the interests of the safety and security of the people of Darfur.
- Express the Security Council's support for the decision of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, taken on 15 May 2006, that concrete steps should be taken to effect the transition from the African Union Mission in the Sudan to a United Nations operation.[19]
- Call upon the parties to the Darfur Peace Agreement to facilitate and work with the African Union, the United Nations, regional and international organizations and Member States to accelerate transition to a United Nations operation.
- Look actively at ways to immediately further enhance cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union, with a view to transition to a United Nations operation.
- Make clear the Security Council's view that a United Nations operation should have strong African participation and character.
- Reaffirm the Security Council's concern that the persisting violence in Darfur might further negatively affect the rest of the Sudan as well as the region, including the security of Chad and the Central African Republic.
- Call upon all States in the region to cooperate in ensuring regional stability.
- Stress that the Secretary-General should consult jointly with the African Union, in close and continuing consultation with the Security Council, and in cooperation and close consultation with the parties to the Abuja Peace Talks, including the Government of National Unity, on decisions concerning the transition to a United Nations operation.

"**Sudan: Darfur issues**

- Make clear to the Government of the Sudan the benefits of a United Nations mission in Darfur.
- Evaluate the additional support required for the African Union Mission in the Sudan to be able to protect civilians and meet its mission objectives.
- Assess the further additional strengthening that the Mission requires to implement the Darfur Peace Agreement.
- Call upon all parties to respect the neutrality, impartiality and independence of humanitarian assistance, and insist on compliance with international humanitarian law and other relevant international obligations.
- Press all parties, in particular the Government of the Sudan, to ensure full and unimpeded access to non-governmental organizations and humanitarian and relief organizations.
- Assess the looming food crisis in the Sudan and the need for donors to quickly commit new funds to ensure that there is no break in food supply from the World Food Programme.
- Exchange views with non-governmental organizations on how to improve the humanitarian situation.
- Evaluate the extent of gender violence in Darfur, propose recommendations for urgently addressing it and evaluate the progress of the Government of National Unity

towards implementing its Action Plan to Combat Violence against Women in Darfur, with particular focus on the rescission of Form 8 and access to legal redress.

- Reiterate the need for an end to forced depopulation and underline concern at the increasing number of internally displaced persons.
- Support the efforts of humanitarian and relief agencies in Darfur.
- Evaluate the enforcement and impact of existing Security Council provisions, including targeted sanctions and the arms embargo on Darfur.
- Press for the Government of the Sudan and all other parties to the conflict in Darfur, in accordance with their obligations under resolution 1593 (2005), to cooperate fully with the International Criminal Court.

"**Sudan: North-South and southern Sudan issues**

- Review progress in the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement[3] and the creation of the institutions of Southern Sudan, emphasizing the importance that all parties honour the agreements.
- Assess the performance and operational capacity of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan.
- Assess in accordance with resolution 1663 (2006) how the Mission could more effectively address the problem of the Lord's Resistance Army, which continues to cause the death, abduction and displacement of many innocent civilians in the Sudan and elsewhere.
- Reaffirm the Security Council's concern about the Lord's Resistance Army and press for urgent action by the Sudanese authorities to arrest those subject to arrest warrants issued by the International Criminal Court.

"**African Union (Addis Ababa)**

- Exchange views on how best to launch the Darfur-Darfur dialogue.
- Commend the efforts of the African Union to achieve lasting peace in Darfur, including what the African Union Mission in the Sudan has successfully achieved as well as the efforts of Member States and organizations that have assisted the Mission.
- Reiterate the Security Council's endorsement of the decision of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union of 10 March 2006 to support in principle the transition of the African Union Mission in the Sudan to a United Nations operation.[12] Call upon the African Union to agree with the United Nations, regional and international organizations and Member States on requirements now necessary, in addition to those identified by the joint assessment mission of 10 to 20 December 2005, to strengthen the capacity of the African Union Mission in the Sudan to enforce the security arrangements of the Darfur Peace Agreement, with a view to a follow-on United Nations operation in Darfur.
- Welcome, and stress the importance of, the increasing cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union to facilitate the transition from the Mission to a United Nations operation.
- Press for, and assess progress towards, the early convening of a pledging conference, making clear that additional funds for the Mission will depend on the development of a realistic plan to reinforce the Mission.
- Exchange views on the threat from the Lord's Resistance Army and ongoing efforts to resolve this problem.

- Exchange views on African Union efforts to address the crisis in Chad and to restore peace and stability in the region.
- Develop closer relations between the United Nations and the African Union.
- Exchange views on enhancing the ability of the Mission to protect civilians, including through the conduct of patrols 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, outside of camps of internally displaced persons.

"**Sudan-Chad relations**

- Encourage the reduction of tensions between Chad and the Sudan.
- Stress the importance of maintaining the security and neutrality of the internally displaced person/refugee camps in the Sudan and Chad.
- Express concern over, and explore a resolution to, the conflict between Chad and the Sudan, making clear that both Chad and the Sudan must refrain from any actions in violation of the integrity of their common border, and ensure that their territory is not used to destabilize the territory of others.
- Call upon Chad and the Sudan to abide by their obligations under the Tripoli Declaration[21] and Agreement,[18] of 8 February 2006, and to implement agreed confidence-building measures.
- Evaluate the implications of the conflict in Darfur on Chad, and the ways to address the problems arising, including the refugee camps, recruitment of child soldiers, border security and wider regional stability.
- Assess the impact of the closure of the border between Chad and the Sudan on the operation of United Nations humanitarian agencies and non-governmental organizations.

"**Chad**

- Evaluate the situation of the refugees from the Sudan and from the Central African Republic, as well as of the internally displaced persons in Chad.
- Make clear that any attempt to seize power by force would be regarded by the Security Council as unacceptable, and call upon all parties in Chad to renounce violence.
- Evaluate the impact of the rebel attacks perpetrated recently against N'Djamena and Adré.
- Call for open and sustained political dialogue with those parties in Chad that are willing to renounce violence.
- Support the efforts of humanitarian and relief agencies in Chad, in accordance with international humanitarian law."

At its 5459th meeting, on 14 June 2006, the Council decided to invite the representative of the Sudan to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled "Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan".

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council also decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Luis Moreno-Ocampo, Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court.

[21] Tripoli Declaration concerning the Situation between Chad and the Sudan (S/2006/103, annex I).

At its 5460th meeting, held in private on 14 June 2006, the Council decided to authorize its President to issue through the Secretary-General the following communiqué, in accordance with rule 55 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council:

"At its 5460th meeting, held in private on 14 June 2006, the Security Council considered the item entitled 'Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan'.

"In accordance with the decision taken at the 5459th meeting, held earlier on 14 June 2006, the President extended an invitation under rule 39 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council to Mr. Luis Moreno-Ocampo, Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court.

"The members of the Council and Mr. Moreno-Ocampo had an exchange of views."

THREATS TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY CAUSED BY TERRORIST ACTS[22]

Decision

At its 5246th meeting, on 4 August 2005, the Security Council decided to invite the representative of Iraq to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled "Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts".

Resolution 1618 (2005) of 4 August 2005

The Security Council,

Reaffirming all its previous relevant resolutions on Iraq, in particular resolution 1546 (2004) of 8 June 2004,

Reaffirming its unwavering support for the Iraqi people in their political transition, as outlined in resolution 1546 (2004), further reaffirming Iraq's independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity, and calling upon the international community to stand by the Iraqi people in their pursuit of peace, stability and democracy,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and its relevant resolutions, in particular resolutions 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001, 1566 (2004) of 8 October 2004, and 1267 (1999) of 15 October 1999 and subsequent resolutions,

Reaffirming also the need to combat by all means, in accordance with the Charter, threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts,

Commending the courage of the Iraqi people who are working bravely in support of the political and economic transition currently taking place in spite of the grave threat of terrorism,

Welcoming the active steps undertaken by the Government of Iraq towards achieving national dialogue and unity, and encouraging the continuation of those efforts,

1. *Condemns without reservation and in the strongest terms* the terrorist attacks that have taken place in Iraq, and regards any act of terrorism as a threat to peace and security;

2. *Takes note in particular* of the shameless and horrific attacks in recent weeks which have resulted in over one hundred deaths, including thirty-two children, employees of the Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq, and a member and an expert adviser of the

[22] Resolutions or decisions on this question have been adopted by the Security Council every year since 2001.

Commission charged with drafting a permanent constitution for a new, democratic Iraq, Mr. Mijbil Sheikh Issa and Mr. Dhamin Hussein Ubaidi;

3. *Notes with great concern* that attacks on foreign diplomats in Iraq have increased in number and have resulted in the murder or kidnapping of such diplomats;

4. *Expresses its deepest sympathy and condolences* to the victims of these terrorist attacks and their families, and to the people and Government of Iraq;

5. *Affirms* that acts of terrorism must not be allowed to disrupt Iraq's political and economic transition currently taking place, including the constitutional drafting process and its referendum, as outlined in resolution 1546 (2004);

6. *Reaffirms* the obligations of Member States under resolutions 1373 (2001), 1267 (1999), 1333 (2000) of 19 December 2000, 1390 (2002) of 16 January 2002, 1455 (2003) of 17 January 2003, 1526 (2004) of 30 January 2004 and 1617 (2005) of 29 July 2005 and other relevant international obligations with respect, inter alia, to terrorist activities in and from Iraq or against its citizens, and, specifically, strongly urges Member States to prevent the transit of terrorists to and from Iraq, arms for terrorists, and financing that would support terrorists, and re-emphasizes the importance of strengthening the cooperation of the countries in the region, particularly neighbours of Iraq, in this regard;

7. *Urges* all States, in accordance with their obligations under resolution 1373 (2001), to cooperate actively in efforts to find and bring to justice the perpetrators, organizers and sponsors of these barbaric acts;

8. *Expresses its utmost determination* to combat terrorism, in accordance with its responsibilities under the Charter of the United Nations;

9. *Calls upon* the international community to support fully the Government of Iraq in exercising its responsibilities to provide protection to the diplomatic community, United Nations staff and other foreign civilian personnel working in Iraq;

10. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

Adopted unanimously at the 5246th meeting.

Decisions

At its 5274th meeting, on 4 October 2005, the Security Council decided to invite the representative of Indonesia to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled "Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts".

At the same meeting, following consultations among members of the Security Council, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:[23]

> "The Security Council condemns in the strongest terms the terrorist bombings that took place on 1 October 2005 in Bali, Indonesia, which has again fallen victim to a heinous act of terrorism.
>
> "The Council expresses its deepest sympathy and condolences to the victims of these attacks and their families, and to the people and the Government of Indonesia.
>
> "The Council underlines the need to bring the perpetrators, organizers, financers and sponsors of these intolerable acts to justice, and urges all States, in accordance with their obligations under international law and resolution 1373 (2001), to cooperate with and provide support and assistance, as appropriate, to the Government of Indonesia in this regard.

[23] S/PRST/2005/45.

"The Council reaffirms that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security, and that any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of their motivation, wherever, whenever and by whomsoever committed.

"The Council further reaffirms the need to combat by all means, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts.

"The Council reiterates its determination to combat all forms of terrorism, in accordance with its responsibilities under the Charter."

At its 5298th meeting, on 31 October 2005, the Council decided to invite the representative of India to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled "Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts".

At the same meeting, following consultations among members of the Security Council, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:[24]

"The Security Council strongly condemns the series of bomb attacks that occurred in New Delhi on 29 October 2005, causing numerous deaths and injuries, and expresses its deepest condolences to the victims of these heinous acts of terrorism and their families, and to the people and the Government of India.

"The Council stresses the importance of bringing the perpetrators, organizers, financers and sponsors of these reprehensible acts of violence to justice, and urges all States, in accordance with their obligations under international law and resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1624 (2005), to cooperate actively with the Indian authorities in this regard.

"The Council reaffirms that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security, and that any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of their motivation, wherever, whenever and by whomsoever committed.

"The Council further reaffirms the need to combat by all means, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts.

"The Council reiterates its determination to combat all forms of terrorism, in accordance with its responsibilities under the Charter."

At its 5303rd meeting, on 10 November 2005, the Council decided to invite the representative of Jordan to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled "Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts".

At the same meeting, following consultations among members of the Security Council, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:[25]

"The Security Council condemns in the strongest terms the terrorist bombings that took place in Amman on 9 November 2005.

"The Council expresses its deepest sympathy and condolences to the victims of these attacks and their families, and to the people and the Government of Jordan.

"The Council underlines the need to bring the perpetrators, organizers, financers and sponsors of these intolerable acts to justice, and urges all States, in accordance with their obligations under international law and resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1624 (2005), to

[24] S/PRST/2005/53.

[25] S/PRST/2005/55.

cooperate with and provide support and assistance, as appropriate, to the Government of Jordan in this regard.

"The Council reaffirms that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security, and that any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of their motivation, wherever, whenever and by whomsoever committed.

"The Council further reaffirms the need to combat by all means, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts. The Council reminds States that they must ensure that any measures taken to combat terrorism comply with all their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law.

"The Council reiterates its determination to combat all forms of terrorism, in accordance with its responsibilities under the Charter."

At its 5338th meeting, on 21 December 2005, the Council considered the item entitled "Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts".

At the same meeting, following consultations among members of the Security Council, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:[26]

"The Security Council reaffirms that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security, and that any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of their motivation, wherever, whenever and by whomsoever committed.

"The Council recalls its resolution 1535 (2004), by which it decided to establish the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (hereinafter "CTED") as a special political mission under the policy guidance of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism (the Counter-Terrorism Committee) to enhance the ability of the Committee to monitor implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) and effectively continue the capacity-building work in which it was engaged. At the same time, the Council decided to carry out a comprehensive review of CTED by 31 December 2005.

"During today's consultations, the Council undertook this review and came to the following conclusions:

"The Council endorsed the report prepared by the Counter-Terrorism Committee and forwarded to the Council,[27] and agreed with the conclusions contained therein.

"The Council noted that CTED had only been fully staffed since 6 September 2005 and welcomed the start that CTED had made on its objectives as set out in the revitalization process. It welcomed the fact that the Counter-Terrorism Committee, in consultation with the Secretary-General, had decided to declare CTED operational on 15 December 2005.

"The Council recalled that the mandate of CTED flows from that of the Counter-Terrorism Committee and reaffirmed that the Committee has the sole responsibility for providing policy guidance to CTED. It also welcomed the fact that such guidance would be accompanied by implementation plans to enhance the ability of the Committee effectively to implement its mandate.

"The Council agreed with the Secretary-General and with the Counter-Terrorism Committee that there was a need to clarify CTED's reporting lines, within the framework of

[26] S/PRST/2005/64.

[27] S/2005/800.

resolution 1535 (2004), and welcomed the Secretary-General's initiative in this regard. The Council expressed its readiness to work with him on this matter.

"The Council welcomed the integration into the work of the Counter-Terrorism Committee of the issue of implementation by Member States of resolution 1624 (2005).

"The Council decided to carry out another comprehensive review of CTED by 31 December 2006, prepared by the Counter-Terrorism Committee."

On 21 December 2005, the President of the Security Council addressed the following letter to the Secretary-General:[28]

"I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 13 December 2005 concerning the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, established pursuant to Security Council resolution 1535 (2004),[29] stating your intention to extend for a further year, until 31 December 2006, the term of office of the Executive Director of the Directorate, Mr. Javier Rupérez, has been brought to the attention of the members of the Council. They approve the extension that you recommend."

At its 5424th meeting, on 25 April 2006, the Council decided to invite the representative of Egypt to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled "Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts".

At the same meeting, following consultations among members of the Security Council, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:[30]

"The Security Council condemns in the strongest terms the terrorist bombings that took place in Dahab, Egypt, on 24 April 2006.

"The Council expresses its deepest sympathy and condolences to the victims of these attacks and their families, and to the people and the Government of Egypt, as well as to all other countries whose citizens have been killed or injured in these bombings.

"The Council underlines the need to bring the perpetrators, organizers, financers and sponsors of these intolerable acts to justice, and urges all States, in accordance with their obligations under international law and resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1624 (2005), to cooperate with and provide support and assistance, as appropriate, to the Government of Egypt in this regard.

"The Council reaffirms that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security, and that any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of their motivation, wherever, whenever and by whomsoever committed.

"The Council further reaffirms the need to combat by all means, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts.

"The Council reiterates its determination to combat all forms of terrorism, in accordance with its responsibilities under the Charter."

At its 5446th meeting, on 30 May 2006, the Council decided to invite the representatives of Austria, Cuba, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Liechtenstein, Switzerland, the Syrian Arab Republic, Ukraine and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled "Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts".

[28] S/2005/818.

[29] S/2005/817.

[30] S/PRST/2006/18.

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council also decided to extend invitations, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. César Mayoral, Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities, Ms. Ellen Margrethe Løj, Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism, and Mr. Peter Burian, Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004).

At its 5477th meeting, on 29 June 2006, the Council decided to invite the representative of Iraq to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled "Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts".

At the same meeting, following consultations among members of the Security Council, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:[31]

> "The Security Council is appalled by the horrific death of members of the Russian diplomatic mission in Iraq who had been kidnapped by a terrorist group and later ruthlessly and in cold blood executed by their captors.
>
> "The Council condemns in the strongest possible terms this crime committed by the terrorists and conveys its deepest sympathy and condolences to the families of the deceased, and the people and the Government of the Russian Federation.
>
> "The Council confirms that no cause can justify such acts of terror as this crime and previous attacks on foreign diplomats committed by the terrorists, and reaffirms its utmost determination to combat terrorism, in accordance with its responsibilities under the Charter of the United Nations.
>
> "The Council urges all States, in accordance with their obligation under resolution 1373 (2001), to cooperate actively in efforts to find and bring to justice the perpetrators, organizers and sponsors of these barbaric acts.
>
> "The Council also calls upon the international community to support the Government of Iraq in exercising its responsibility to provide protection to the diplomatic community in Iraq, United Nations staff and other foreign civilian personnel working in Iraq.
>
> "The Council also underlines the importance of continuing the efforts of the Government of Iraq and the multinational force in combating terrorism and improving security in Iraq in line with resolutions 1546 (2004) and 1637 (2005). The Council reiterates the importance of efforts to promote national reconciliation, dialogue and inclusion in ensuring peace, security and stability in Iraq, and in that context commends the Government of Iraq for initiating the Reconciliation and National Dialogue Plan.
>
> "The Council reaffirms the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Iraq."

At its 5484th meeting, on 12 July 2006, the Council decided to invite the representative of India to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled "Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts".

At the same meeting, following consultations among members of the Security Council, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:[32]

> "The Security Council condemns in the strongest terms the series of bomb attacks that occurred in different parts of India, including Mumbai, on 11 July 2006, causing numerous deaths and injuries, and expresses its deepest sympathy and condolences to the victims of

[31] S/PRST/2006/29.

[32] S/PRST/2006/30.

these heinous acts of terrorism and their families, and to the people and the Government of India.

"The Council underlines the need to bring the perpetrators, organizers, financers and sponsors of these reprehensible acts of terrorism to justice, and urges all States, in accordance with their obligations under international law and resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1624 (2005), to cooperate actively with the Indian authorities in this regard.

"The Council reaffirms that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security, and that any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of their motivation, wherever, whenever and by whomsoever committed.

"The Council further reaffirms the need to combat by all means, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts. The Council reminds States that they must ensure that any measures taken to combat terrorism comply with all their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law.

"The Council reiterates its determination to combat all forms of terrorism, in accordance with its responsibilities under the Charter."

THE SITUATION CONCERNING WESTERN SAHARA[33]

Decisions

On 8 August 2005, the President of the Security Council addressed the following letter to the Secretary-General:[34]

"I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 4 August 2005 concerning your intention to appoint Mr. Francesco Bastagli, of Italy, as your Special Representative for Western Sahara and Head of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara[35] has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the intention expressed in your letter."

On 9 September 2005, the President of the Security Council addressed the following letter to the Secretary-General:[36]

"I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 6 September 2005 concerning your intention to appoint Brigadier General Kurt Mosgaard, of Denmark, to the post of Force Commander of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara[37] has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the intention expressed in your letter."

At its 5295th meeting, on 28 October 2005, the Council considered the item entitled:

"The situation concerning Western Sahara

"Report of the Secretary-General on the situation concerning Western Sahara (S/2005/648)".

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[33] Resolutions or decisions on this question were also adopted by the Security Council in 1975, 1988, 1990 to 2004 and during the period from 1 January to 31 July 2005.

[34] S/2005/512.

[35] S/2005/511.

[36] S/2005/571.

[37] S/2005/570.

Resolution 1634 (2005)
of 28 October 2005

The Security Council,

Recalling all its previous resolutions on Western Sahara, including resolutions 1495 (2003) of 31 July 2003, 1541 (2004) of 29 April 2004 and 1598 (2005) of 28 April 2005,

Reaffirming its commitment to assist the parties to achieve a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara in the context of arrangements consistent with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and noting the role and responsibilities of the parties in this respect,

Reiterating its call upon the parties and States of the region to continue to cooperate fully with the United Nations to end the current impasse and to achieve progress towards a political solution,

Taking note of the release on 18 August 2005 of the remaining four hundred and four Moroccan prisoners of war by the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguía el-Hamra y de Río de Oro in compliance with international humanitarian law, and calling upon the parties to continue to cooperate with the International Committee of the Red Cross to resolve the fate of persons who are unaccounted for since the beginning of the conflict,

Welcoming the appointment of the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General for Western Sahara Mr. Peter van Walsum, and noting that he recently completed consultations in the region,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 13 October 2005,[18]

1. *Reaffirms* the need for full respect of the military agreements reached with the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara with regard to the ceasefire;

2. *Calls upon* Member States to consider voluntary contributions to fund confidence-building measures that allow for increased contact between separated family members, especially family unification visits;

3. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Mission until 30 April 2006;

4. *Requests* that the Secretary-General provide a report on the situation concerning Western Sahara before the end of the mandate period, and requests the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General to provide a briefing, within three months of the adoption of the present resolution, on the progress of his efforts;

5. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

Adopted unanimously at the 5295th meeting.

Decision

At its 5431st meeting, on 28 April 2006, the Security Council considered the item entitled:

"The situation concerning Western Sahara

"Report of the Secretary-General on the situation concerning Western Sahara (S/2006/249)".

Resolution 1675 (2006)
of 28 April 2006

The Security Council,

Recalling all its previous resolutions on Western Sahara, including resolutions 1495 (2003) of 31 July 2003, 1541 (2004) of 29 April 2004 and 1634 (2005) of 28 October 2005,

[18] S/2005/648.

Reaffirming its commitment to assist the parties to achieve a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara in the context of arrangements consistent with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and noting the role and responsibilities of the parties in this respect,

Reiterating its call upon the parties and States of the region to continue to cooperate fully with the United Nations to end the current impasse and to achieve progress towards a political solution,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 19 April 2006,[39]

1. *Reaffirms* the need for full respect of the military agreements reached with the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara with regard to the ceasefire;

2. *Calls upon* Member States to consider voluntary contributions to fund confidence-building measures that allow for increased contact between separated family members, especially family unification visits;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide a report on the situation concerning Western Sahara before the end of the mandate period;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take the necessary measures to achieve actual compliance in the Mission with the United Nations zero-tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and abuse, including the development of strategies and appropriate mechanisms to prevent, identify and respond to all forms of misconduct, including sexual exploitation and abuse, and the enhancement of training for personnel to prevent misconduct and ensure full compliance with the United Nations code of conduct, requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action in accordance with the Secretary-General's bulletin on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse[40] and to keep the Security Council informed, and urges troop-contributing countries to take appropriate preventive action, including conducting predeployment awareness training, and to take disciplinary action and other action to ensure full accountability in cases of such conduct involving their personnel;

5. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Mission until 31 October 2006;

6. *Decides also* to remain seized of the matter.

Adopted unanimously at the 5431st meeting.

Decision

On 30 June 2006, the President of the Security Council addressed the following letter to the Secretary-General:[41]

> "I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 26 June 2006 concerning your suggestion that the members of the Security Council use the next four months to prepare for a more substantial resolution on the situation concerning Western Sahara[42] has been brought to the attention of the members of the Council. They take note of the information contained in your letter and the suggestion expressed therein."

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[39] S/2006/249.

[40] ST/SGB/2003/13.

[41] S/2006/467.

[42] S/2006/466.

THE SITUATION CONCERNING IRAQ[43]

Decision

At its 5247th meeting, on 11 August 2005, the Security Council decided to invite the representative of Iraq to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled:

"The situation concerning Iraq

"Letter dated 3 August 2005 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2005/509)".

Resolution 1619 (2005) of 11 August 2005

The Security Council,

Recalling all its previous relevant resolutions on Iraq, in particular resolutions 1500 (2003) of 14 August 2003, 1546 (2004) of 8 June 2004 and 1557 (2004) of 12 August 2004,

Reaffirming the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Iraq,

Recalling that the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq was established on 14 August 2003 and extended on 12 August 2004, and reaffirming that the United Nations should play a leading role in assisting the efforts of the Iraqi people and Government in developing institutions for representative government, and in promoting national dialogue and unity,

Stressing that this Iraqi national dialogue, which the Mission should assist, is crucial for the political stability and unity of Iraq,

Taking note of the letter dated 3 August 2005 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council,[44]

1. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq for another period of twelve months from the date of the present resolution;

2. *Expresses its intention* to review the mandate of the Mission in twelve months or sooner, if requested by the Government of Iraq;

3. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

Adopted unanimously at the 5247th meeting.

Decisions

On 19 August 2005, the President of the Security Council addressed the following letter to the Secretary-General:[45]

"I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 8 August 2005 concerning the termination of operations relating to letters of credit raised against the United Nations Iraq Account[46] has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They welcome the arrangements that you propose in order to balance concern for the timely termination of the oil-for-food programme against the need for an orderly treatment of the requirements of both vendor and purchaser. The members of the Council emphasize that it is essential that the remaining work be done in close consultation with the relevant authorities

[43] Resolutions or decisions on this question were also adopted by the Security Council during the period from 1 January to 31 July 2005.

[44] S/2005/509.

[45] S/2005/536.

[46] S/2005/535.

of the Government of Iraq. Bearing in mind the timetable envisaged in the note annexed to your letter, they request you to report orally to the Council on the implementation of the above-mentioned arrangements by mid-October 2005, so as to allow the members of the Council to assess the progress made and review the arrangements."

On 25 August 2005, the President of the Security Council addressed the following letter to the Secretary-General:[47]

"I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 23 August 2005 concerning your intention to appoint Mr. Lu Yongshou, of China, as a Commissioner for the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission [48] has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the intention expressed in your letter."

At its 5256th meeting, on 7 September 2005, the Council decided to invite the representative of Iraq to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled "The situation concerning Iraq".

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council also decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Paul Volcker, Chairman of the Independent Inquiry Committee into the United Nations Oil-for-Food Programme.

At its 5266th meeting, on 21 September 2005, the Council decided to invite the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled:

"The situation concerning Iraq

"Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 30 of resolution 1546 (2004) (S/2005/585)".

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council also decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Ashraf Jehangir Qazi, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq.

At its 5267th meeting, held in private on 21 September 2005, the Council decided to authorize its President to issue through the Secretary-General the following communiqué, in accordance with rule 55 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council:

"At its 5267th meeting, held in private on 21 September 2005, the Security Council considered the item entitled 'The situation concerning Iraq'.

"In accordance with the decisions taken at the 5266th meeting, the President extended an invitation, under rule 37 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council, to Mr. Hoshyar Zebari, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq, and extended an invitation, under rule 39 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council, to Mr. Ashraf Jehangir Qazi, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq.

"The members of the Council, Mr. Zebari and Mr. Qazi exchanged views."

At its 5300th meeting, on 8 November 2005, the Council decided to invite the representative of Iraq to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled "The situation concerning Iraq".

[47] S/2005/541.

[48] S/2005/540.

Resolution 1637 (2005) of 8 November 2005

The Security Council,

Welcoming the beginning of a new phase in Iraq's transition, and looking forward to the completion of the political transition process as well as to the day that Iraqi forces assume full responsibility for the maintenance of security and stability in their country, thus allowing the completion of the multinational force mandate,

Recalling all of its previous relevant resolutions on Iraq,

Reaffirming the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Iraq,

Reaffirming also the right of the Iraqi people freely to determine their own political future and control their own natural resources,

Welcoming the commitment of the Transitional Government of Iraq to work towards a federal, democratic, pluralistic and unified Iraq in which there is full respect for political and human rights,

Calling upon the international community, particularly countries in the region and Iraq's neighbours, to support the Iraqi people in their pursuit of peace, stability, security, democracy and prosperity, and noting the contribution that the successful implementation of the present resolution will bring to regional stability,

Welcoming the assumption of full governmental authority by the Interim Government of Iraq on 28 June 2004, the direct democratic election of the Transitional National Assembly on 30 January 2005, the drafting of a new constitution for Iraq and the recent approval of the draft constitution by the people of Iraq on 15 October 2005,

Noting that the Government of Iraq established as a result of the election scheduled to take place by 15 December 2005 will play a critical role in continuing to promote national dialogue and reconciliation and in shaping the democratic future of Iraq, and reaffirming the willingness of the international community to work closely with the Government of Iraq with respect to efforts to assist the Iraqi people,

Calling upon those who use violence in an attempt to subvert the political process to lay down their arms and participate in the political process, including in the election scheduled for 15 December 2005, and encouraging the Government of Iraq to engage with all those who renounce violence and to promote a political atmosphere conducive to national reconciliation and political competition through peaceful democratic means,

Reaffirming that acts of terrorism must not be allowed to disrupt Iraq's political and economic transition, and further reaffirming the obligations of Member States under resolution 1618 (2005) of 4 August 2005 and other relevant resolutions and international obligations with respect, inter alia, to terrorist activities in and from Iraq or against its citizens,

Recognizing the request, conveyed in the letter dated 27 October 2005 from the Prime Minister of Iraq to the President of the Security Council, which is annexed to the present resolution, to retain the presence of the multinational force in Iraq, and further recognizing the importance of the consent of the sovereign Government of Iraq for the presence of the multinational force and of close coordination between the multinational force and that Government,

Welcoming the willingness of the multinational force to continue efforts to contribute to the maintenance of security and stability in Iraq, including participating in the provision of humanitarian and reconstruction assistance, as described in the letter dated 29 October 2005 from the Secretary of State of the United States of America to the President of the Security Council, which is annexed to the present resolution,

Recognizing the tasks and arrangements set out in the letters annexed to resolution 1546 (2004) of 8 June 2004 and the cooperative implementation by the Government of Iraq and the multinational force of those arrangements,

Affirming the importance that all forces promoting the maintenance of security and stability in Iraq act in accordance with international law, including obligations under international humanitarian law, and cooperate with relevant international organizations, and welcoming their commitments in this regard,

Recalling the establishment of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq on 14 August 2003, underlining the particular importance of the Mission's assistance for the upcoming election by 15 December 2005 of a Government pursuant to a newly adopted Constitution, and affirming that the United Nations should continue to play a leading role in assisting the Iraqi people and Government with further political and economic development, including advising and supporting the Government of Iraq, as well as the Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq, contributing to the coordination and delivery of reconstruction, development and humanitarian assistance, and promoting the protection of human rights, national reconciliation, as well as judicial and legal reform in order to strengthen the rule of law in Iraq,

Recognizing that international support for security and stability is essential to the well-being of the people of Iraq as well as the ability of all concerned, including the United Nations, to carry out their work on behalf of the people of Iraq, and expressing its appreciation for contributions by Member States in this regard under resolutions 1483 (2003) of 22 May 2003, 1511 (2003) of 16 October 2003 and 1546 (2004),

Recognizing also that the Government of Iraq will continue to have the primary role in coordinating international assistance to Iraq, and reaffirming the importance of international assistance and development of the Iraqi economy and the importance of coordinated donor assistance,

Recognizing further the significant role of the Development Fund for Iraq and the International Advisory and Monitoring Board in helping the Government of Iraq to ensure that Iraq's resources are being used transparently and equitably for the benefit of the people of Iraq,

Determining that the situation in Iraq continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security,

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Notes* that the presence of the multinational force in Iraq is at the request of the Government of Iraq and, having regard to the letters annexed to the present resolution, reaffirms the authorization for the multinational force as set forth in resolution 1546 (2004), and decides to extend the mandate of the multinational force as set forth in that resolution until 31 December 2006;

2. *Decides* that the mandate of the multinational force shall be reviewed at the request of the Government of Iraq or no later than 15 June 2006, and declares that it will terminate this mandate earlier if requested by the Government of Iraq;

3. *Decides also* to extend until 31 December 2006 the arrangements established in paragraph 20 of resolution 1483 (2003) for the deposit into the Development Fund for Iraq of proceeds from export sales of petroleum, petroleum products and natural gas and the arrangements referred to in paragraph 12 of resolution 1483 (2003) and paragraph 24 of resolution 1546 (2004) for the monitoring of the Development Fund for Iraq by the International Advisory and Monitoring Board;

4. *Decides further* that the provisions in paragraph 3 above for the deposit of proceeds into the Development Fund for Iraq and for the role of the International Advisory and Monitoring Board shall be reviewed at the request of the Government of Iraq or no later than 15 June 2006;

5. *Requests* that the Secretary-General continue to report to the Security Council on the operations in Iraq of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq on a quarterly basis;

6. *Requests* that the United States of America, on behalf of the multinational force, continue to report to the Council on the efforts and progress of the force on a quarterly basis;

7. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

Adopted unanimously at the 5300th meeting.

Annex I

Letter dated 27 October 2005 from Mr. Ibrahim Aleshaiker al-Jaafari, Prime Minister of Iraq, to the President of the Security Council[49]

On 15 October 2005 Iraq voted in a general referendum held at the national level for the purpose of approving a new Constitution for Iraq. The country thus took another important step towards building a strong democratic future and establishing a Government elected in accordance with a permanent Constitution. At the same time, Iraq is approaching the completion of its political transformation through the process of electing its future legislative authority and forming a new Government, which is to take place in December 2005. There still remains an extensive agenda for reconstruction and political development, the realization of which will require security and stability.

We are proceeding towards political stability and economic prosperity and taking fundamental steps towards restoring security and stability. Yet Iraq is still confronted by forces of terrorism that incorporate foreign elements which carry out horrific attacks and terrorist acts in an attempt to thwart political and economic development in Iraq. The Iraqi security forces, which are growing in size, capacity and experience day by day, need more time to fill out their ranks, fully equip themselves and complete their training with a view to assuming responsibility for all security matters and providing adequate security for the Iraqi people. Until such time as the Iraqi security forces assume full responsibility for Iraq's security, we need the continued support of the international community, including the participation of the Multinational Force, in order to establish lasting peace and security in Iraq. We understand that the Multinational Force is willing to continue its efforts. We therefore request the Security Council to extend, for a period of 12 months starting 31 December 2005, the mandate of the Multinational Force, as provided in Council resolution 1546 (2004), including the tasks and arrangements specified in the letters annexed thereto, with the proviso that the Council shall review that mandate upon being so requested by the Government of Iraq or at the end of a period of eight months from the date of the resolution and declare, in the extension, that it will terminate the mandate before the expiry of that period should the Government of Iraq so request.

The Government of Iraq believes that the provisions of resolution 1546 (2004) relating to the deposit of proceeds into the Development Fund for Iraq and the role of the International Advisory and Monitoring Board will help to ensure that Iraq's natural resources are used for the benefit of the Iraqi people. We understand that the funds deposited in the Development Fund for Iraq belong to Iraq and will continue to enjoy the immunities and privileges of the Fund, given the importance of those terms for the Iraqi people during this critical period. We request the Security Council to extend the validity of those terms for an additional 12 months and to review them upon being so requested by the Government of Iraq or at the end of a period of eight months from the date of the resolution.

The Iraqi people are determined to establish for themselves a stable, peaceful democracy, which will provide the basis for the establishment of a vibrant economy. This vision of Iraq's future can become a reality with the help of the international community.

[49] Circulated under the symbol S/2005/687.

It is my understanding that the sponsors intend to have the present letter annexed to the resolution on Iraq currently being drafted. In the meantime, I should be grateful if you would have copies of this letter circulated to the members of the Security Council as soon as possible.

Annex II

Letter dated 29 October 2005 from Ms. Condoleezza Rice, Secretary of State of the United States of America, to the President of the Security Council[50]

Having reviewed the request of the Government of Iraq to extend the mandate of the Multinational Force (MNF) in Iraq[49] and following consultations with the Government of Iraq, I am writing to confirm, consistent with this request, that the MNF under unified command stands ready to continue to fulfil its mandate as set out in Security Council resolution 1546 (2004).

Since the end of the occupation on 28 June 2004, the Government of Iraq and the MNF have developed an effective and cooperative security partnership to address the evolving nature of Iraq's security environment, including the continuing need to prevent and deter acts of terrorism. This partnership plays a critical role in the daily efforts to improve security throughout Iraq. In the context of this partnership, the MNF is prepared to continue to undertake a broad range of tasks to contribute to the maintenance of security and stability and to ensure force protection, acting under the authorities set forth in resolution 1546 (2004), including the tasks and arrangements set out in the letters annexed thereto, and in close cooperation with the Government of Iraq. The forces that make up the MNF will remain committed to acting consistently with their obligations under international law, including the law of armed conflict.

Substantial progress has already been made in helping to build and train the Iraqi Security Forces (ISF), allowing them to take on increasing security responsibilities. The Government of Iraq and the MNF are developing a security plan to set forth the conditions necessary for transfer of security responsibility from the MNF to the ISF. Conditions permitting, we look forward to notable progress in the next year. Together, we will build towards the day when the Iraqi forces assume full responsibility for the maintenance of security and stability in Iraq.

The co-sponsors intend to annex the present letter to the resolution on Iraq under consideration. In the meantime, I request that you provide copies of the present letter to members of the Council as quickly as possible.

Decisions

At its 5301st meeting, on 9 November 2005, the Security Council considered the item entitled "The situation concerning Iraq".

Following the decision taken at the 5301st meeting, the President of the Security Council addressed the following letter to the Secretary-General:[51]

> "I have the honour to respond to your letter dated 2 November 2005,[52] in which you referred to Security Council resolution 1284 (1999), by which the Council established the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission, and to the related resolutions 687 (1991) and 706 (1991).
>
> "I wish to inform you that the Council has decided to approve the proposal contained in your letter that $2,182,168 plus €226,493 be transferred from the escrow account established under the above-mentioned resolutions to be credited against assessments issued in respect of the obligations of the Government of Iraq for the International Atomic Energy Agency budget."

[50] Circulated under the symbol S/2005/691.

[51] S/2005/703.

[52] S/2005/702.

On 11 November 2005, the President of the Security Council addressed the following letter to the Secretary-General:[53]

> "I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 17 October 2005 concerning the termination of operations relating to the letters of credit raised against the United Nations Iraq Account[54] has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council, who had the opportunity to discuss it during private consultations held on 19 October 2005 in the presence of the Controller. The members of the Council seize this opportunity to thank you for your efforts to balance concern for the timely termination of the oil-for-food programme against the need for a successful conclusion of the projects initiated under this programme. In this regard, they welcome the meeting between the Controller and the relevant authorities of the Government of Iraq held in Amman on 3 October 2005. They take note of the update of the situation and of the new arrangements proposed in the note annexed to your letter. The members of the Council believe that it is essential to pursue the close consultations with the Government of Iraq. Bearing in mind the new timetable envisaged in your letter, they request you to inform the Council on the implementation of the new arrangements by mid-December 2005, so as to allow the members of the Council to assess the progress made."

At its 5325th meeting, on 14 December 2005, the Council decided to invite the representative of Iraq to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled:

"The situation concerning Iraq

> "Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 30 of resolution 1546 (2004) (S/2005/766)".

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council also decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Ibrahim Gambari, Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs.

On 30 December 2005, the President of the Security Council addressed the following letter to the Secretary-General:[55]

> "I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 20 December 2005 and the annex thereto, concerning your decision to maintain the operation of the Independent Inquiry Committee until the end of March 2006,[56] has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the information and decision contained in your letter and the annex thereto.
>
> "In particular, members of the Council note that the Committee, having fully completed its investigation, would not retain any ongoing investigative capacity or authority. Extension of the operation under the chairmanship of the Executive Director of the Committee would be exclusively for the purposes of assisting the national bodies investigating the cases resulting from its work, and the remaining functions would be to manage appropriate access to the Committee archive and to ensure its appropriate preservation and disposition."

On 10 February 2006, the President of the Security Council addressed the following letter to the Secretary-General:[57]

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[53] S/2005/713.

[54] S/2005/656.

[55] S/2005/848.

[56] S/2005/847.

[57] S/2006/94.

"I have the honour to respond to your letter dated 7 February 2006,[58] in which you referred to Security Council resolution 1284 (1999), by which the Council established the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission, and to the related resolutions 687 (1991) and 706 (1991).

"In this connection, I wish to inform you that the Council has decided to approve the proposal contained in your letter that $416,871 be transferred from the escrow account established under the above-referenced resolutions to be credited against assessments issued in respect of the obligations of the Government of Iraq for the regular budget, peacekeeping, Tribunal activities and the capital master plan of the Organization."

At its 5371st meeting, on 14 February 2006, the Council decided to invite the representative of Iraq to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled "The situation concerning Iraq".

At the same meeting, following consultations among members of the Security Council, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:[59]

"The Security Council welcomes the announcement by the Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq on 10 February 2006 of the certified election results for the Iraqi Council of Representatives. The Security Council is particularly encouraged that political parties representing all of Iraq's communities participated in the election, as demonstrated by the high voter turnout across Iraq. The Council commends and congratulates the people of Iraq for demonstrating their commitment to a peaceful, democratic political process, and for having braved difficult conditions and the threat of violence to cast their votes.

"The Council stresses the importance of inclusiveness, national dialogue and unity as Iraq's political development moves forward. The Council calls upon Iraq's political leaders to work with resolve towards the formation of a fully inclusive Government, which will strive to build a peaceful, prosperous, democratic and united Iraq. The Council urges all Iraqis to participate in the peaceful political process and calls upon those who continue to use violence to lay down their arms. The Council unanimously condemns acts of terrorism in Iraq. Such acts should not be allowed to disrupt Iraq's political and economic progress.

"The Council gives special recognition to the Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq for its role in organizing and administering the elections. The Council also commends the Secretary-General and the United Nations for successfully assisting election preparations, and notes in particular the role of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq. The Council also appreciates the assistance given by other international actors, including European Union electoral experts and the International Mission for Iraqi Elections.

"The Council underlines the need for continued and enhanced international support from all States and relevant international organizations to assist Iraq's wide-ranging political, economic and social development. The Council calls upon the United Nations to play the fullest possible role in Iraq. It also calls upon all other international actors, particularly Iraq's neighbours, to conform to relevant Council resolutions and consider also how they can reinforce their contribution at this important time. In this context, the Council also looks forward to the continued efforts of the League of Arab States in support of the political process endorsed in Council resolutions 1546 (2004) and 1637 (2005).

"The Council reaffirms its support for a federal, democratic, pluralist and unified Iraq, in which there is full respect for human rights."

[58] S/2006/93.

[59] S/PRST/2006/8.

At its 5386th meeting, on 15 March 2006, the Council decided to invite the representative of Iraq to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled:

"The situation concerning Iraq

"Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 30 of resolution 1546 (2004) (S/2006/137)".

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council also decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Ashraf Jehangir Qazi, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq.

On 28 March 2006, the President of the Security Council addressed the following letter to the Secretary-General:[60]

"I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 24 March 2006 concerning your decision to extend the Office of the Independent Inquiry Committee until 31 December 2006[61] has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the information and decision contained in your letter."

At its 5444th meeting, on 24 May 2006, the Council decided to invite the representative of Iraq to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled "The situation concerning Iraq".

At the same meeting, following consultations among members of the Security Council, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:[62]

"The Security Council welcomes the inauguration on 20 May 2006 of Iraq's constitutionally elected Government and congratulates the people of Iraq on this milestone in their country's political transition.

"The Council is particularly encouraged by the fact that the Government is representative of Iraq's many diverse communities and expresses its hope that the Ministers of Defence, Interior and National Security Affairs will be appointed as soon as possible. The Council encourages the new Government to work tirelessly to promote national reconciliation through dialogue and inclusion and to build an atmosphere in which sectarianism is rejected. The Council, at the same time, urges all Iraqis to participate in the political process peacefully, demanding that those who continue to use violence lay down their arms. The Council wholly condemns acts of terrorism in Iraq, including recent horrific attacks on civilians and religious sites aimed callously at provoking intercommunal tensions.

"The Council underlines the high expectations in the new Government to deliver improvements in security and stability, in human rights and the rule of law, in the provision of essential services, and in economic progress and prosperity. The Council urges the Government to work effectively and energetically to this end. The Council also strongly urges all States and relevant international organizations to continue and enhance their help to Iraq's sovereign Government at this crucial time. The Council notes the particular role of Iraq's neighbours and calls upon them to conform to relevant Council resolutions and to examine how they can reinforce their contribution. In this context, the Council also looks forward to the continued efforts of the League of Arab States, including the forthcoming conference in Baghdad, in support of the political process that the Council has endorsed.

"The Council reaffirms its support for a federal, democratic, pluralist and unified Iraq, as a responsible member of the international community, in which there is stability,

[60] S/2006/195.

[61] S/2006/194.

[62] S/PRST/2006/24.

prosperity and full respect for human rights and the rule of law. The Council also reaffirms the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Iraq."

On 26 May 2006, the President of the Security Council addressed the following letter to the Secretary-General:[63]

"I have the honour to inform you that the letter dated 23 May 2006, whereby you announce your intention to appoint Mr. Francis C. Record to the post of Commissioner of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission,[64] has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council, who have taken note of the intention expressed in your letter."

At its 5463rd meeting, on 15 June 2006, the Council decided to invite the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled:

"The situation concerning Iraq

"Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 30 of resolution 1546 (2004) (S/2006/360)".

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council also decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Ms. Angela Kane, Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs.

At its 5464th meeting, held in private on 15 June 2006, the Council decided to authorize its President to issue through the Secretary-General the following communiqué, in accordance with rule 55 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council:

"At its 5464th meeting, held in private on 15 June 2006, the Security Council considered the item entitled 'The situation concerning Iraq'.

"In accordance with the decision taken at the 5463rd meeting, the President extended an invitation under rule 37 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council to Mr. Hoshyar Zebari, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq.

"In accordance with the decision taken at the 5463rd meeting, the President extended an invitation under rule 39 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council to Ms. Angela Kane, Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs.

"Members of the Council, Mr. Zebari and Ms. Kane had an exchange of views."

COMMUNICATION CONCERNING RELATIONS BETWEEN CAMEROON AND NIGERIA[65]

Decision

On 12 August 2005, the President of the Security Council addressed the following letter to the Secretary-General:[66]

"I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 1 August 2005 concerning your intention to continue the activities of the United Nations support team to the Cameroon-

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[63] S/2006/340.

[64] S/2006/339.

[65] Resolutions or decisions on this question were also adopted by the Security Council in 2004.

[66] S/2005/529.

Nigeria Mixed Commission with funding from the regular budget[67] has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the information contained in your letter and the intention expressed therein. They also urge the parties to the Mixed Commission to work with international donors to seek further voluntary contributions."

THE SITUATION IN GUINEA-BISSAU[68]

Decisions

At its 5248th meeting, on 19 August 2005, the Security Council decided to invite the representative of Guinea-Bissau to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled "The situation in Guinea-Bissau".

At the same meeting, following consultations among members of the Security Council, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:[69]

"The Security Council acknowledges with satisfaction the successful holding of the presidential elections in Guinea-Bissau and the announcement by the National Electoral Commission of the final results of the ballot. This marks an important step towards the restoration of constitutional order. The Council takes note of the appeal filed with the Supreme Court of Justice by one of the contenders and strongly encourages all parties to honour their commitments and accept the final ruling of the Court. The Council urges them to refrain from any actions that could jeopardize the efforts towards peace and stability in Guinea-Bissau.

"The Council commends the people of Guinea-Bissau for their encouraging participation in the electoral process.

"The Council pays tribute to Guinea-Bissau's partners and neighbours, who provided indispensable support for the holding of the elections. The Council also congratulates international observers on the essential role they played throughout the country, and welcomes their statement recognizing the presidential elections as free, fair and transparent.

"The Council expresses its appreciation for the contribution made by the African Union, the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries, the Economic Community of West African States, the European Union, the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General, the Special Envoy of the Chairperson of the African Union, the Representative of the Secretary-General in Guinea-Bissau and the United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office in Guinea-Bissau, bilateral partners and international financial institutions. The Council underlines the importance of their timely diplomatic efforts aimed at promoting national dialogue and respect for the rule of law.

"Considering the challenges still facing Guinea-Bissau, the Council urges all relevant national and international parties to reaffirm their commitment to peace and democracy in Guinea-Bissau, and calls upon bilateral development partners of Guinea-Bissau, international financial institutions and United Nations agencies to increase their support for economic and social development and the consolidation of national institutions, as well as the promotion of good governance and human rights, in particular by providing emergency

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[67] S/2005/528.

[68] Resolutions or decisions on this question have been adopted by the Security Council every year since 1998.

[69] S/PRST/2005/39.

financial assistance and technical support, in the short run, and by participating actively in the Donor Round Table Conference to be held in November 2005.

"The Council therefore welcomes the decision taken by the Economic and Social Council on 26 July 2005 to extend the mandate of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Guinea-Bissau,[70] and commends the Advisory Group for its work.

"The Council invites the Secretary-General to present recommendations in his next report regarding the updating of the mandate of the Support Office and its role in the consolidation of peace and stability in Guinea-Bissau in the post-transition period."

On 15 December 2005, the President of the Security Council addressed the following letter to the Secretary-General:[71]

"I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 2 December 2005 concerning your proposal that the current mandate of the United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office in Guinea-Bissau, which expires on 22 December 2005, be revised and extended to 31 December 2006,[72] has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the information and proposal contained in your letter."

THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN[73]

Decisions

At its 5249th meeting, on 23 August 2005, the Security Council decided to invite the representatives of Afghanistan, Canada, Germany, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea, Spain and Turkey to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled:

"The situation in Afghanistan

"Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security (S/2005/525)".

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council also decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Jean Arnault, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan.

At the same meeting, following consultations among members of the Security Council, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:[74]

"The Security Council welcomes the progress in the preparations for the parliamentary (Wolesi Jirga) and provincial council elections scheduled for 18 September 2005, including the compilation of the final candidate list and updating of voter registration, and encourages all Afghan participants, especially the candidates and their supporters, to work constructively to ensure that the ongoing electoral campaigns are conducted peacefully, in an environment free of intimidation, and that the elections can be held successfully. The Council calls upon

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[70] See Economic and Social Council resolution 2005/32.

[71] S/2005/796.

[72] S/2005/795.

[73] Resolutions or decisions on this question were also adopted by the Security Council in 1994, 1996 to 2004 and during the period from 1 January to 31 July 2005.

[74] S/PRST/2005/40.

the international community to extend additional financial assistance in order to fill the gap of 29.6 million United States dollars for these elections.

"The Council expresses grave concern about the increased attacks by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist groups in Afghanistan over the past few months. The Council condemns the attempts to disrupt the political process by terrorist acts or other forms of violence in Afghanistan. The Council, in this regard, endorses the effort of the Government of Afghanistan, with the support of the International Security Assistance Force and the Operation Enduring Freedom coalition, within their respective responsibilities, to improve the safety and stability of the country.

"The Council also stresses the importance of continued cooperation and increased dialogue between neighbouring States and the Government of Afghanistan to promote regional development and the long-term peace and stability of Afghanistan.

"The Council notes the progress made to date, in particular in security sector reform, and in this regard welcomes the completion of the disarmament of the Afghan Military Forces. The Council expresses its strong view that the international community must maintain a high level of commitment to assist Afghanistan in addressing its remaining challenges, including the security situation, disbandment of illegal armed groups, production of and trafficking in drugs, development of Afghan government institutions, acceleration of justice sector reform, promotion and protection of human rights, and sustainable economic and social development.

"The Council welcomes the desire of the international community and the Government of Afghanistan to agree to a new framework for international engagement beyond the completion of the Bonn political process. The Council expresses, in this regard, its readiness to review, based on the report of the Secretary-General to be submitted in accordance with its resolution 1589 (2005), and in the light of consultations that the United Nations will have with the Government of Afghanistan and all concerned international actors, the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan after the completion of the electoral process, in order to allow the United Nations to continue to play a vital role in the post-Bonn period. The Council is also ready to consider the renewal of the mandate of the International Security Assistance Force prior to its expiration, upon the request of the Government of Afghanistan."

At its 5260th meeting, on 13 September 2005, the Council decided to invite the representative of Afghanistan to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled "The situation in Afghanistan".

Resolution 1623 (2005) of 13 September 2005

The Security Council,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions on Afghanistan, in particular resolutions 1386 (2001) of 20 December 2001, 1413 (2002) of 23 May 2002, 1444 (2002) of 27 November 2002, 1510 (2003) of 13 October 2003 and 1563 (2004) of 17 September 2004,

Reaffirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Afghanistan,

Reaffirming its resolutions 1368 (2001) of 12 September 2001 and 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001, and reiterating its support for international efforts to root out terrorism in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

Recognizing that the responsibility for providing security and law and order throughout the country resides with the Afghans themselves, and welcoming the cooperation of the Government of Afghanistan with the International Security Assistance Force,

Recalling the importance of the Bonn Agreement of 5 December 2001[75] and the Berlin Declaration of 1 April 2004,[76] in particular annex I to the Bonn Agreement, which, inter alia, provides for the progressive expansion of the Force to other urban centres and other areas beyond Kabul,

Stressing the importance of extending central government authority to all parts of Afghanistan, of respect for democratic values, of full completion of the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process, of the disbandment of illegal armed groups, of justice sector reform, of security sector reform, including reconstitution of the Afghan National Army and Police, and of combating narcotics trade and production, and recognizing certain progress that has been made in these and other areas with the help of the international community,

Recognizing the challenges facing Afghanistan with regard to the security situation in parts of the country,

Welcoming, in this context, the commitment by lead nations of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to establish further Provincial Reconstruction Teams,

Further welcoming the role played by the Force and the Operation Enduring Freedom coalition in assisting in securing the conduct of national elections,

Expressing its appreciation to Italy for taking over the lead from Turkey in commanding the Force, and to those nations who contributed to Eurocorps, and recognizing with gratitude the contributions of many nations to the Force,

Taking note of the letter dated 1 September 2005 from Mr. Abdullah Abdullah, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan, to the Secretary-General,[77]

Determining that the situation in Afghanistan still constitutes a threat to international peace and security,

Determined to ensure the full implementation of the mandate of the Force, in consultation with the Government of Afghanistan,

Acting, for these reasons, under Chapter VII of the Charter,

1. *Decides* to extend the authorization of the International Security Assistance Force, as defined in resolutions 1386 (2001) and 1510 (2003), for a period of twelve months beyond 13 October 2005;

2. *Authorizes* the Member States participating in the Force to take all necessary measures to fulfil its mandate;

3. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen the Force, and in this regard calls upon Member States to contribute personnel, equipment and other resources to the Force, and to make contributions to the trust fund established pursuant to resolution 1386 (2001);

4. *Calls upon* the Force to continue to work in close consultation with the Government of Afghanistan and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan as well as with the Operation Enduring Freedom coalition in the implementation of the mandate of the Force;

5. *Requests* the leadership of the Force to provide quarterly reports on the implementation of the mandate of the Force to the Security Council through the Secretary-General;

6. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

Adopted unanimously at the 5260th meeting.

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[75] Agreement on Provisional Arrangements in Afghanistan Pending the Re-establishment of Permanent Government Institutions (see S/2001/1154).

[76] Available from www.unama-afg.org.

[77] S/2005/574, annex.

Decisions

At its 5309th meeting, on 23 November 2005, the Security Council decided to invite the representative of Afghanistan to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled "The situation in Afghanistan".

At the same meeting, following consultations among members of the Security Council, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:[78]

> "The Security Council congratulates the people of Afghanistan on the confirmation of the final results of the parliamentary and provincial council elections. The successful holding of these elections has demonstrated the broad commitment of Afghan voters to democracy and freedom in their country, and the Council welcomes the fact that the completion of the confirmation process has paved the way toward the timely inauguration of the new parliament and thus to the conclusion of the Bonn political process.
>
> "The Council commends all Afghans for having taken this step and calls upon them, and, in particular, the representatives-elect and other former candidates, to remain fully committed to peace, the Constitution, the rule of law and democracy in Afghanistan.
>
> "The Council, in this connection, reiterates its appreciation to all those who contributed to the electoral process, and extends special appreciation to the Joint Electoral Management Body and the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan for their dedication. The Council also reiterates its endorsement of the efforts of the Afghan security forces, with the support of the International Security Assistance Force and the Operation Enduring Freedom coalition, within their respective responsibilities, to improve the safety and stability of the country.
>
> "The Council hopes for the prompt appointment of all members of the House of Elders (Meshrano Jirga).
>
> "The Council reaffirms the importance for the international community to maintain a high level of commitment to assisting Afghanistan in addressing its remaining challenges, in particular in the fields of security, including fighting terrorist and narcotics threats, governance and development.
>
> "The Council supports the central and impartial role that the United Nations continues to play for the consolidation of peace and stability in Afghanistan and coordination of the relevant international efforts and welcomes consultations initiated by the Government of Afghanistan and the United Nations on the post-Bonn process.
>
> "Finally, the Council stresses that violence in any form intended to disrupt the democratic process in Afghanistan will not be tolerated. The Council unequivocally condemns all recent attacks in Afghanistan, including the attacks against the International Security Assistance Force, and expresses its deepest sympathies to the victims, both Afghan and international, and their families, as well as to the troop contributors of the Force."

On 21 December 2005, the President of the Security Council addressed the following letter to the Secretary-General:[79]

> "I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 16 December 2005 concerning your intention to appoint Mr. Tom Koenigs, of Germany, as your Special Representative for Afghanistan and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan[80] has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the intention expressed in your letter."

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[78] S/PRST/2005/56.

[79] S/2005/820.

[80] S/2005/819.

At its 5347th meeting, on 17 January 2006, the Council decided to invite the representative of Afghanistan to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled "The situation in Afghanistan".

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council also decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Jean Arnault, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan.

At its 5348th meeting, held in private on 17 January 2006, the Council decided to authorize its President to issue through the Secretary-General the following communiqué, in accordance with rule 55 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council:

> "At its 5348th meeting, held in private on 17 January 2006, the Security Council considered the item entitled 'The situation in Afghanistan'.
>
> "Pursuant to the decision taken at the 5347th meeting, the President, with the consent of the Council, extended an invitation under rule 37 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council to the representative of Afghanistan.
>
> "The President, with the consent of the Council, extended an invitation under rule 37 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council to the representative of Germany.
>
> "Pursuant to the decision taken at the 5347th meeting, the President, with the consent of the Council, extended an invitation under rule 39 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council to Mr. Jean Arnault, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan.
>
> "Members of the Council, the representative of Afghanistan and Mr. Arnault had an exchange of views."

At its 5369th meeting, on 10 February 2006, the Council decided to invite the representative of Afghanistan to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled "The situation in Afghanistan".

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council also decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Jean-Marie Guéhenno, Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations.

At its 5370th meeting, held in private on 10 February 2006, the Council decided to authorize its President to issue through the Secretary-General the following communiqué, in accordance with rule 55 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council:

> "At its 5370th meeting, held in private on 10 February 2006, the Security Council considered the item entitled 'The situation in Afghanistan'.
>
> "The President, with the consent of the Council, extended an invitation under rule 37 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council to the representative of Germany.
>
> "Pursuant to the decision taken at the 5369th meeting, the President, with the consent of the Council, extended an invitation under rule 37 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council to the representative of Afghanistan.
>
> "Pursuant to the decision taken at the 5369th meeting, the President, with the consent of the Council, extended an invitation under rule 39 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council to Mr. Jean-Marie Guéhenno, Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations.
>
> "Members of the Council, the representative of Afghanistan and Mr. Guéhenno had an exchange of views."

At its 5374th meeting, on 15 February 2006, the Council decided to invite the representative of Afghanistan to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled "The situation in Afghanistan".

Resolution 1659 (2006)
of 15 February 2006

The Security Council,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions on Afghanistan, in particular resolutions 1378 (2001) of 14 November 2001, 1383 (2001) of 6 December 2001 and 1589 (2005) of 24 March 2005,

Reaffirming its full commitment to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Afghanistan,

Pledging its continued support for the Government and people of Afghanistan as they rebuild their country, strengthen the foundations of a constitutional democracy and assume their rightful place in the community of nations,

Stressing the inalienable right of the people of Afghanistan freely to determine their own future,

Determined to assist the Government and people of Afghanistan in building on the successful completion of the Bonn process,

Recognizing the interconnected nature of the challenges ahead, and affirming that sustainable progress on security, governance and development, which necessarily involves capacity-building, is mutually reinforcing,

Recognizing also the continuing importance of fighting terrorist and narcotics threats and addressing threats posed by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist groups,

Stressing that regional cooperation constitutes an effective means to promote security and development in Afghanistan,

Welcoming the letter dated 6 February 2006 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan[81] informing the Secretary-General of the launch of the "Afghanistan Compact"[82] in London on 31 January 2006,

1. *Endorses* the Afghanistan Compact and the annexes thereto[82] as providing the framework for the partnership between the Government of Afghanistan and the international community which underlies the mutual commitments set out in the Compact;

2. *Calls upon* the Government of Afghanistan, and all members of the international community and international organizations, to implement in full the Compact and the annexes thereto;

3. *Affirms* the central and impartial role of the United Nations in Afghanistan, including the coordination of efforts in implementing the Compact, and looks forward to the early formation of the Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board, co-chaired by the Government of Afghanistan and the United Nations with a secretariat function to support it;

4. *Welcomes* the interim Afghanistan National Development Strategy presented by the Government of Afghanistan[83] and the political, security and financial pledges made by participants at the London Conference on Afghanistan, held on 31 January and 1 February 2006, notes that financial assistance available for the implementation of the Strategy has now reached

[81] S/2006/89, annex.

[82] S/2006/90, annex.

[83] See S/2006/105, annex.

10.5 billion United States dollars, and also notes the intention of the Government of Afghanistan to seek debt relief through the Paris Club;

5. *Recognizes* the risk that opium cultivation, production and trafficking poses to the security, development and governance of Afghanistan as well as to the region and internationally, welcomes the updated National Drug Control Strategy presented by the Government of Afghanistan at the London Conference,[84] and encourages additional international support for the four priorities identified in the Strategy, including through contribution to the Counter-Narcotics Trust Fund;

6. *Acknowledges* the continuing commitment of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to lead the International Security Assistance Force, and welcomes the adoption by the Organization of a revised Operational Plan allowing the continued expansion of the Force across Afghanistan, closer operational synergy with Operation Enduring Freedom, and support, within means and capabilities, to Afghan security forces in the military aspects of their training and operational deployments;

7. *Declares its willingness* to take further action to support the implementation of the Compact and the annexes thereto, on the basis of timely reports by the Secretary-General which encompass recommendations on the future mandate and structure of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan;

8. *Decides* to remain actively seized of this matter.

Adopted unanimously at the 5374th meeting.

Decisions

At its 5385th meeting, on 14 March 2006, the Security Council decided to invite the representatives of Afghanistan, Australia, Austria, Canada, Germany, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Kazakhstan, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan and the Republic of Korea to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled:

"The situation in Afghanistan

"Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security (S/2006/145)".

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council also decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Tom Koenigs, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan.

At its 5393rd meeting, on 23 March 2006, the Council decided to invite the representative of Afghanistan to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled:

"The situation in Afghanistan

"Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security (S/2006/145)".

Resolution 1662 (2006)
of 23 March 2006

The Security Council,

Recalling its previous resolutions on Afghanistan, in particular resolution 1589 (2005) of 24 March 2005, in which it extended the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission in

[84] S/2006/106, annex.

Afghanistan until 24 March 2006, and resolution 1659 (2006) of 15 February 2006, in which it endorsed the Afghanistan Compact,[82]

Reaffirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Afghanistan,

Reaffirming, in this context, its support for the implementation by the Government of Afghanistan and all members of the international community and international organizations of the Compact under the ownership of the Afghan people, and its support for the interim Afghanistan National Development Strategy,[83]

Pledging its continued support for the Government and people of Afghanistan as they build on the successful completion of the Bonn process in rebuilding their country, strengthening the foundations of a constitutional democracy and assuming their rightful place in the community of nations,

Stressing the inalienable right of the people of Afghanistan freely to determine their own future, and welcoming the successful holding of the parliamentary and provincial elections on 18 September 2005,

Determined to assist the Government and people of Afghanistan in building on the successful London Conference on Afghanistan, held on 31 January and 1 February 2006,

Recognizing the interconnected nature of the challenges in Afghanistan, affirming that sustainable progress on security, governance and development as well as the cross-cutting issue of counter-narcotics, which necessarily involves capacity-building, is mutually reinforcing, and welcoming the continuing efforts of the Government of Afghanistan and the international community to address these challenges,

Recognizing also the continuing importance of combating increased terrorist attacks caused by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist groups and narcotics threats,

Expressing its concern at the increasing threat to the local population, national security forces, international military and international assistance efforts by extremist activities, and stressing the importance of the security and safety of the United Nations staff,

Recalling the importance of the Kabul Declaration on Good-neighbourly Relations (Kabul Declaration) of 22 December 2002,[85] and stressing that regional cooperation constitutes an effective means to promote security and development in Afghanistan,

Expressing its appreciation and strong support for the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General and his Special Representative for Afghanistan,

Stressing the central and impartial role that the United Nations continues to play in promoting peace and stability in Afghanistan, including the coordination and monitoring of efforts in implementing the Compact,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General of 7 March 2006;[86]

2. *Also welcomes* the United Nations' long-term commitment to work with the people and Government of Afghanistan;

3. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, as set out in the report of the Secretary-General, for an additional period of twelve months from the date of adoption of the present resolution;

[85] S/2002/1416, annex.

[86] S/2006/145.

4. *Reiterates its call upon* the Government of Afghanistan, and all members of the international community and international organizations, to implement in full the Afghanistan Compact and the annexes thereto;[82]

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of meeting the benchmarks and timelines of the Compact for progress on security, governance and development, as well as the cross-cutting issue of counter-narcotics, and of increasing the effectiveness and coordination of the assistance to Afghanistan;

6. *Calls upon* all Afghan parties and groups to engage constructively in the peaceful political development of the country and avoid resorting to violence;

7. *Welcomes* the substantial progress in the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process in accordance with the Bonn Agreement of 5 December 2001,[75] including the completion of disarmament and demobilization, encourages the Government of Afghanistan to complete the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process by June 2006, calls for determined efforts by the Government, including its security authorities, to disband illegal armed groups and to dispose of ammunition stockpiles, and requests the international community to extend further assistance for those efforts, taking fully into account the guidance by the Mission;

8. *Also welcomes* the development of the Afghan National Army and the Afghan National Police and the ongoing efforts to increase their capabilities as important steps towards the goal of Afghan security forces providing security and ensuring the rule of law throughout the country, and further welcomes in this regard the outcome of the Doha Conference on Border Management in Afghanistan of 28 February 2006;

9. *Further welcomes* the inauguration of the new Afghan National Assembly, commends Afghan efforts to ensure its efficient functioning, which will be critical to the political future of Afghanistan, welcomes the international efforts to provide technical assistance, and encourages all the institutions to work in a spirit of cooperation;

10. *Calls upon* the Government of Afghanistan to ensure continued public administrative reform and anti-corruption efforts, as described in the Compact;

11. *Welcomes* the finalization of the ten-year strategy for justice reform in Afghanistan, as detailed in the paper entitled "Justice for all" presented by the Ministry of Justice, and invites the Government of Afghanistan, with the assistance of the international community, to continue to work towards the establishment of a fair and transparent justice system, including the reconstruction and reform of the correctional system, as highlighted in the Compact, in order to strengthen the rule of law throughout the country and eliminate impunity;

12. *Calls for* full respect for human rights and international humanitarian law throughout Afghanistan, in this regard, requests the Mission, with the support of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to continue to assist in the full implementation of the human rights provisions of the Afghan Constitution and international treaties to which Afghanistan is a State party, in particular those regarding the full enjoyment by women of their human rights, commends the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission for its courageous efforts to monitor respect for human rights in Afghanistan as well as to foster and protect those rights, welcomes the adoption of the Action Plan on Peace, Justice and Reconciliation on 12 December 2005, and encourages international support for the Action Plan;

13. *Welcomes* the interim Afghanistan National Development Strategy presented at the London Conference on Afghanistan,[83] calls upon the Government of Afghanistan to further provide strong leadership in its implementation, and encourages the fulfilment of the pledges made by the participants at the Conference, including financial assistance available for the implementation of the Strategy, which has reached 10.5 billion United States dollars;

14. *Recognizes* the risk that opium cultivation, production and trafficking poses to the security, development and governance of Afghanistan as well as to the region and internationally, welcomes the updated National Drug Control Strategy presented by the Government of

Afghanistan at the London Conference,[84] calls upon the Government, with support provided by the international community, to pursue early implementation of the Strategy, and encourages additional international support for the four priorities identified in the Strategy, including through contributions to the Counter-Narcotics Trust Fund;

15. *Emphasizes* the important role in monitoring the implementation of the Compact to be played by the Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board, which will be co-chaired by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and the Government of Afghanistan and supported by a small secretariat;

16. *Welcomes* the proposal of the Secretary-General to extend the reach of regional offices, security circumstances permitting;

17. *Calls upon* all Afghan and international parties to continue to cooperate with the Mission in the implementation of its mandate and to ensure the security and freedom of movement of its staff throughout the country;

18. *Calls upon* the Government of Afghanistan, with the assistance of the international community, including the Operation Enduring Freedom coalition and the International Security Assistance Force, in accordance with their respective designated responsibilities as they evolve, to continue to address the threat to the security and stability of Afghanistan posed by the Taliban, Al-Qaida, other extremist groups and criminal activities;

19. *Encourages* the promotion of confidence-building measures between Afghanistan and its neighbours in the spirit of the Kabul Declaration[85] in order to foster dialogue and cooperation in the region in full respect for the principles of territorial integrity, mutual respect, friendly relations and non-interference in each other's internal affairs;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Security Council every six months on developments in Afghanistan;

21. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

Adopted unanimously at the 5393rd meeting.

Decision

At its 5496th meeting, held in private on 26 July 2006, the Security Council decided to authorize its President to issue through the Secretary-General the following communiqué, in accordance with rule 55 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council:

"At its 5496th meeting, held in private on 26 July 2006, the Security Council considered the item entitled 'The situation in Afghanistan'.

"The President, with the consent of the Council, extended invitations under rule 37 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council to the representatives of Afghanistan, Finland and Germany.

"The President, with the consent of the Council, extended an invitation under rule 39 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council to Mr. Tom Koenigs, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan.

"Members of the Council, the representative of Afghanistan and Mr. Koenigs had an exchange of views."

ITEMS RELATING TO THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

A. The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question[87]

Decisions

At its 5250th meeting, on 24 August 2005, the Security Council considered the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question".

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Ibrahim Gambari, Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs.

At its 5270th meeting, on 23 September 2005, the Council considered the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question".

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Alvaro de Soto, United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General.

At the same meeting, following consultations among members of the Security Council, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:[88]

> "The Security Council supports the Statement issued in New York on 20 September 2005 by the Quartet, which is annexed to the present statement.
>
> "The Council urges the Government of Israel and the Palestinian Authority to cooperate, along with other parties concerned, with the efforts to achieve the goals set out in the Quartet Statement.
>
> "The Council calls for renewed action in parallel by the Government of Israel and the Palestinian Authority on their obligations in accordance with the Road Map,[89] to ensure continued progress towards the creation of an independent, sovereign, democratic and viable State of Palestine living side by side with Israel in peace and security.
>
> "The Council stresses the importance of, and the need to achieve, a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East, based on all its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973), 1397 (2002) and 1515 (2003), the Madrid terms of reference[90] and the principle of land for peace.
>
> "**Annex**
>
> "**Quartet Statement**
>
> "**New York, 20 September 2005**
>
> "Representatives of the Quartet – the Secretary General of the United Nations, Mr. Kofi Annan, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, Mr. Sergey Lavrov, the Secretary of State of the United States of America, Ms. Condoleezza Rice, the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Mr. Jack Straw, the High Representative for the Common

[87] Resolutions or decisions on this question have been adopted by the Security Council every year since 2000.

[88] S/PRST/2005/44.

[89] Performance-based road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict (S/2003/529, annex).

[90] See Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements, signed at Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993 (S/26560, annex).

Foreign and Security Policy of the European Union, Mr. Javier Solana, and the European Commissioner for External Relations, Ms. Benita Ferrero-Waldner — met today in New York to discuss the Gaza disengagement and the prospects for movement towards peace in the Middle East.

"The Quartet recognizes and welcomes the successful conclusion of the Israeli withdrawal from Gaza and parts of the northern West Bank and the moment of opportunity that it brings to renew efforts on the Road Map.[89] The Quartet reiterates its belief that this brave and historic decision should open a new chapter on the path to peace in the region. It paid tribute to the political courage of Prime Minister Sharon and commends the Government of Israel, its armed forces and its police for the smooth and professional execution of the operation. It also expresses its appreciation for the responsible behaviour of the Palestinian Authority and people for helping to maintain a peaceful environment during the evacuation. The Quartet applauds the close coordination between the Israeli and Palestinian security services during the process. These significant developments create new opportunities and call for renewed focus on the responsibilities of all parties. The conclusion of disengagement represents an important step toward achieving the vision of two democratic States, Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security.

"The Quartet commends continued cooperation between both parties and the United States Security Coordinator, General William Ward, on security issues related to the disengagement. The Quartet calls for an end to all violence and terror. While the leadership of the Palestinian Authority has condemned violence and has sought to encourage Palestinian groups who have engaged in terrorism to abandon this course and engage in the democratic process, the Quartet further urges the Palestinian Authority to maintain law and order and dismantle terrorist capabilities and infrastructure. The Quartet reaffirms the continued importance of comprehensive reform of the Palestinian security services. The rule of law through authorized security institutions is fundamental to democratic practice. The Quartet expresses appreciation to those parties which have made contributions to the security reform effort, particularly Egypt, the European Union and the United States. Finally, the Quartet welcomes the agreement between the Governments of Israel and Egypt on security arrangements along the Gaza-Egypt border.

"At today's meeting, Quartet Special Envoy Wolfensohn's report on his current efforts and initiatives was discussed. The Quartet encourages his further work to facilitate continued discussion between the parties to build on the success of disengagement. The Palestinian Authority should demonstrate its ability to govern, and all members of the international community should look for ways to support these efforts. The Quartet will continue to lead international efforts to support sustainable growth of the Palestinian economy and to strengthen the overall capacity of the Palestinian Authority to assume its responsibilities through an aggressive pursuit of state-building and democratic reform efforts. Given the critical importance of free movement in the West Bank to the viability of the Palestinian economy, the Quartet urges an easing of the system of movement restrictions, consistent with Israel's security needs. The Quartet reaffirms that coordinated action by the international donor community is crucial for the success of the Quartet Special Envoy's Quick-Impact Economic Program, as well as for the longer-term three-year plan for Palestinian development. In this regard, it notes the importance of the $750 million in assistance which will be disbursed to the Palestinian Authority during the remainder of this year. The Quartet urges Arab States to implement existing commitments and to engage fully and positively in response to the Special Envoy's initiatives. To ensure the success of this effort, the Quartet views continued progress on institutional reform of the Palestinian Authority, as well as progress in combating corruption, as essential. The Quartet also welcomes the announcement of Palestinian Legislative Council elections and upcoming municipal elections.

"Looking beyond disengagement, the Quartet reviewed progress on implementation of the Road Map. The Quartet calls for renewed action in parallel by both parties on their

obligations in accordance with the sequence of the Road Map. As part of the confidence-building process the Quartet urged both sides to return to the cooperative agenda reached at Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt. Contacts between the parties should be intensified at all levels. The Quartet charges the Envoys to keep progress under review.

"Both parties are reminded of their obligations under the Road Map to avoid unilateral actions which prejudice final status issues. The Quartet reaffirms that any final agreement must be reached through negotiation between the parties and that a new Palestinian State must be truly viable with contiguity in the West Bank and connectivity to Gaza. On settlements, the Quartet welcomed the fact that, in areas covered by disengagement, Israel has gone beyond its obligations under the first phase of the Road Map. The Quartet expresses its concern that settlement expansion elsewhere must stop, and Israel must remove unauthorized outposts. The Quartet continues to note with concern the route of the Israeli separation barrier, particularly as it results in the confiscation of Palestinian land, cuts off the movement of people and goods, and undermines Palestinians' trust in the Road Map process as it appears to prejudge the final borders of a Palestinian State.

"The Quartet members exchanged views on the Russian proposal to hold an international meeting of experts in Moscow. Contacts on this matter will continue, taking into consideration the need to give attention to the various aspects of the Middle East situation, including multilateral matters.

"The Quartet reiterates its commitment to the principles outlined in previous statements, including those of 4 May 2004, and 9 May and 23 June 2005, and reaffirms its commitment to a just, comprehensive and lasting settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict based upon Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973)."

At its 5287th meeting, on 20 October 2005, the Council considered the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question".

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Ibrahim Gambari, Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs.

At its 5312th meeting, on 30 November 2005, the Council considered the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question".

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Ibrahim Gambari, Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs.

At its 5313th meeting, on 30 November 2005, the Council considered the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question".

At the same meeting, following consultations among members of the Security Council, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:[91]

"The Security Council welcomes the Agreement on Movement and Access and the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing reached between the Government of Israel and the Palestinian Authority on 15 November 2005. The successful opening of the Rafah crossing on 25 November 2005 represents an important step forward.

"The Council commends the efforts of the Quartet, the Quartet Special Envoy and his team, as well as the positive contributions of the Government of Egypt, and expresses its strong appreciation to the European Union for assuming the role of third-party monitor.

[91] S/PRST/2005/57.

"The Council calls upon the parties to take immediate action to implement the terms of both agreements according to the timelines established therein.

"The Council calls for renewed action in parallel by the Government of Israel and the Palestinian Authority on their obligations in accordance with the Road Map,[89] to ensure continued progress towards the creation of a viable, democratic, sovereign and contiguous Palestine living side by side with Israel in peace and security. The Council stresses the importance of, and the need to achieve, a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East, based on all its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973), 1397 (2002) and 1515 (2003), the Madrid terms of reference[90] and the principle of land for peace."

On 16 December 2005, the President of the Security Council addressed the following letter to the Secretary-General:[92]

"I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 13 December 2005 concerning the activities of the Quartet, including the extension of the mandate of its Special Envoy for Gaza Disengagement, Mr. James Wolfensohn, and the continued support for his office in Jerusalem,[93] has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They welcome the proposed arrangements set out in your letter."

At its 5337th meeting, on 20 December 2005, the Council considered the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question".

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Ibrahim Gambari, Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs.

At its 5361st meeting, on 31 January 2006, the Council considered the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question".

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Ms. Angela Kane, Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs.

At its 5365th meeting, on 3 February 2006, the Council considered the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question".

At the same meeting, following consultations among members of the Security Council, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:[94]

"The Security Council congratulates the Palestinian people on an electoral process that was free, fair and secure. It commends all the parties for the preparation and conduct of the elections, particularly the Central Elections Commission and the Palestinian Authority security forces, for their professionalism.

"The Council expresses its expectation that a new government remain committed to realizing the aspirations of the Palestinian people for peace and statehood. The Council welcomes President Abbas' affirmation that the Palestinian Authority remains committed to the Road Map,[89] previous agreements and obligations between the parties, and a negotiated two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The Council expresses its view that all members of a future Palestinian government must be committed to the aforementioned instruments and principles.

[92] S/2005/798.

[93] S/2005/797.

[94] S/PRST/2006/6.

"Cognizant of the humanitarian needs of the Palestinian people, the Council reaffirms its continuing interest in the fiscal stability of the caretaker government, consistent with clear reform and austerity benchmarks. The Council notes that major donors have indicated they will review future assistance to a new Palestinian Authority government against the commitment of that government to the principles of non-violence, recognition of Israel and acceptance of previous agreements and obligations, including the Road Map.

"The Council reminds both parties of their obligation under the Road Map and on existing agreements, including on movement and access. It calls upon both parties to avoid unilateral actions which prejudice final status issues. The Council underlines the need for the Palestinian Authority to prevent terrorist attacks and dismantle the infrastructure of terror. It reiterates its view that settlement expansion must stop and its concern regarding the route of the barrier.

"The Council reaffirms its profound attachment to the vision of two democratic States, Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security. The Council reiterates the importance of, and the need to achieve, a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East, based on all its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973), 1397 (2002) and 1515 (2003), the Madrid terms of reference[90] and the principle of land for peace."

At its 5381st meeting, on 28 February 2006, the Council considered the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question".

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Alvaro de Soto, United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General.

At its 5404th meeting, on 30 March 2006, the Council decided to invite the representatives of Austria, Israel, Lebanon, Malaysia, the Syrian Arab Republic, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question".

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council also decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Tuliameni Kalomoh, Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs.

At the same meeting, the Council further decided to extend an invitation to the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations, in response to his request dated 20 March 2006 to the President of the Security Council,[95] in accordance with the provisional rules of procedure of the Council and its previous practice in that regard.

At the same meeting, the Council decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People.

On 11 April 2006, the President of the Security Council addressed the following letter to the Secretary-General:[96]

"I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 6 April 2006 concerning the activities of the Quartet, including the extension of the mandate of its Special Envoy for Gaza Disengagement, Mr. James Wolfensohn, and the continuing support for his office in

[95] Document S/2006/197, incorporated in the record of the 5404th meeting.
[96] S/2006/234.

Jerusalem[97] has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They welcome the proposed arrangements set out in your letter."

At its 5411th meeting, on 17 April 2006, the Council decided to invite the representatives of Algeria, Austria, Bahrain, Cuba, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Malaysia, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, the Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Yemen to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled:

"The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question

"Letter dated 10 April 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Bahrain to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2006/227)

"Letter dated 11 April 2006 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yemen to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2006/239)

"Letter dated 12 April 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2006/240)".

At the same meeting, the Council also decided to extend an invitation to the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations, in response to his request dated 17 April 2006 to the President of the Council,[98] in accordance with the provisional rules of procedure of the Council and its previous practice in that regard.

At the same meeting, the Council further decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, in response to his request dated 17 April 2006.[99]

At the same meeting, in response to the request dated 17 April 2006 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council,[100] the Council decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Yahya A. Mahmassani, Permanent Observer of the League of Arab States to the United Nations.

At its 5419th meeting, on 24 April 2006, the Council considered the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question".

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Alvaro de Soto, United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General.

At its 5443rd meeting, on 24 May 2006, the Council considered the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question".

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Ibrahim Gambari, Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs.

At its 5472nd meeting, on 21 June 2006, the Council considered the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question".

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[97] S/2006/233.

[98] Document S/2006/241, incorporated in the record of the 5411th meeting.

[99] See S/PV.5411.

[100] Document S/2006/244, incorporated in the record of the 5411th meeting.

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Ibrahim Gambari, Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs.

At its 5481st meeting, on 30 June 2006, the Council decided to invite the representatives of Algeria, Austria, Cuba, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Morocco, Norway, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, the Syrian Arab Republic, Yemen and Zimbabwe [101] to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled:

"The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question

"Letter dated 29 June 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2006/458)

"Letter dated 29 June 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2006/462)".

At the same meeting, the Council also decided to extend an invitation to the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations, in response to his request dated 30 June 2006 to the President of the Council,[102] in accordance with the provisional rules of procedure of the Council and its previous practice in that regard.

At the same meeting, the Council further decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, in response to his request dated 30 June 2006.[103]

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Ms. Angela Kane, Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs.

At its 5488th meeting, on 13 July 2006, the Council decided to invite the representative of Israel to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled:

"The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question

"Letter dated 29 June 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2006/458)

"Letter dated 29 June 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2006/462)".

At the same meeting, the Council also decided to extend an invitation to the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations, in response to his request dated 13 July 2006 to the President of the Council,[104] in accordance with the provisional rules of procedure of the Council and its previous practice in that regard.

At its 5493rd meeting, on 21 July 2006, the Council decided to invite the representatives of Algeria, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Finland, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, the Sudan, Switzerland, the Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question".

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[101] India submitted a request to be invited to participate, which it subsequently withdrew.

[102] Document S/2006/465, incorporated in the record of the 5481st meeting.

[103] The Chairman of the Committee was subsequently unable to attend.

[104] Document S/2006/520, incorporated in the record of the 5488th meeting.

At the same meeting, the Council also decided to extend an invitation to the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations, in response to the request dated 19 July 2006 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine addressed to the President of the Council,[105] in accordance with the provisional rules of procedure of the Council and its previous practice in that regard.

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council further decided to extend invitations, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Vijay Nambiar, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General, and Mr. Jan Egeland, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator.

At the same meeting, in response to the request dated 20 July 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council, the Council decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Yahya A. Mahmassani, Permanent Observer of the League of Arab States to the United Nations.

At the same meeting, the Council also decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, in response to his request dated 21 July 2006.

B. The situation in the Middle East[106]

Decisions

On 15 September 2005, the President of the Security Council addressed the following letter to the Secretary-General:[107]

> "I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 9 September 2005 concerning your intention to extend the mandate of the United Nations International Independent Investigation Commission until 25 October 2005[108] has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the information contained in your letter and the intention expressed therein."

At its 5292nd meeting, on 25 October 2005, the Council decided to invite the representatives of Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled:

"The situation in the Middle East

> "Letter dated 20 October 2005 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2005/662)".

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council also decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Detlev Mehlis, Commissioner of the United Nations International Independent Investigation Commission.

At its 5297th meeting, held at the ministerial level on 31 October 2005, the Council decided to invite the representatives of Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled:

"The situation in the Middle East

> "Letter dated 20 October 2005 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2005/662)".

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[105] Document S/2006/553, incorporated in the record of the 5493rd meeting.

[106] Resolutions or decisions on this question have been adopted by the Security Council every year since 1967.

[107] S/2005/588.

[108] S/2005/587.

Resolution 1636 (2005) of 31 October 2005

The Security Council,

Reaffirming all its previous relevant resolutions, in particular resolutions 1595 (2005) of 7 April 2005, 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001 and 1566 (2004) of 8 October 2004,

Reiterating its call for the strict respect of the sovereignty, territorial integrity, unity and political independence of Lebanon under the sole and exclusive authority of the Government of Lebanon,

Reaffirming that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to peace and security,

Having examined carefully the report of the United Nations International Independent Investigation Commission ("the Commission") concerning its investigation into the terrorist bombing in Beirut on 14 February 2005 that killed former Prime Minister of Lebanon Rafiq Hariri and twenty-two others, and caused injury to dozens of people,[109]

Commending the Commission for the outstanding professional work it has accomplished under difficult circumstances in assisting the Lebanese authorities in their investigation of all aspects of this terrorist act, and taking note of the conclusion of the Commission that the investigation is not yet complete,

Commending States which have provided assistance to the Commission in the discharge of its duties,

Commending the Lebanese authorities for the full cooperation they have provided to the Commission in the discharge of its duties, in accordance with paragraph 3 of resolution 1595 (2005),

Recalling that, pursuant to its relevant resolutions, all States are required to afford one another the greatest measure of assistance in connection with criminal investigations or criminal proceedings relating to terrorist acts, and recalling in particular that in resolution 1595 (2005) it had requested all States and all parties to cooperate fully with the Commission,

Taking note of the findings of the Commission that although the inquiry has already made considerable progress and achieved significant results, it is of the utmost importance to continue the trail both within and outside Lebanon in order to elucidate fully all aspects of this terrorist act, and in particular to identify and hold accountable all those who bear responsibility in its planning, sponsoring, organization and perpetration,

Mindful of the demand of the Lebanese people that all those responsible for the terrorist bombing that killed former Prime Minister of Lebanon Rafiq Hariri and others be identified and held accountable,

Acknowledging, in this connection, the letter dated 13 October 2005 from the Prime Minister of Lebanon to the Secretary-General requesting that the mandate of the Commission be extended to enable the Commission to continue to assist the competent Lebanese authorities in any further investigation of the various dimensions of the terrorist crime,[110]

Acknowledging also the concurrent recommendation of the Commission that continued international assistance is needed to help the Lebanese authorities to get right to the bottom of this terrorist act and that a sustained effort on the part of the international community to establish an assistance and cooperation platform together with the Lebanese authorities in the field of security and justice is essential,

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[109] See S/2005/662.

[110] S/2005/651, annex.

Willing to continue to assist Lebanon in the search for the truth and in holding those responsible for this terrorist act accountable for their crime,

Calling upon all States to extend to the Lebanese authorities and to the Commission the assistance they may need and request in connection with the inquiry, and in particular to provide them with all relevant information they may possess pertaining to this terrorist attack,

Reaffirming its profound commitment to the national unity and stability of Lebanon, emphasizing that the future of Lebanon should be decided through peaceful means by the Lebanese themselves, free of intimidation and foreign interference, and warning in this regard that attempts to undermine the stability of Lebanon will not be tolerated,

Taking note of the conclusions of the Commission that, given the infiltration of Lebanese institutions and society by the Syrian and Lebanese intelligence services working in tandem, it would be difficult to envisage a scenario whereby such a complex assassination plot could have been carried out without their knowledge, and that there is probable cause to believe that the decision to assassinate former Prime Minister Rafiq Hariri could not have been taken without the approval of top-ranked Syrian security officials,

Mindful of the conclusion of the Commission that while the Syrian authorities, after initial hesitation, have cooperated to a limited degree with the Commission, several Syrian officials have tried to mislead the investigation by giving false or inaccurate statements,

Convinced that it is unacceptable in principle that anyone anywhere should escape accountability for an act of terrorism for any reason, including because of his own obstruction of the investigation or failure to cooperate in good faith,

Determining that this terrorist act and its implications constitute a threat to international peace and security,

Emphasizing the importance of peace and stability in the region, and the need for peaceful solutions,

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

I

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Commission;[109]

2. *Takes note with extreme concern* of the conclusion of the Commission that there is converging evidence pointing at the involvement of both Lebanese and Syrian officials in this terrorist act and that it is difficult to envisage a scenario whereby such a complex assassination could have been carried out without their knowledge;

3. *Decides*, as a step to assist in the investigation of this crime and without prejudice to the ultimate judicial determination of the guilt or innocence of any individual:

(*a*) That all individuals designated by the Commission or the Government of Lebanon as suspected of involvement in the planning, sponsoring, organizing or perpetrating of this terrorist act, upon notification of such designation to and agreement of the Committee established in subparagraph (*b*) below, shall be subject to the following measures:

- All States shall take the measures necessary to prevent entry into or transit through their territories of such individuals, provided that nothing in the present paragraph shall obligate a State to refuse entry into its territory to its own nationals, or, if such individuals are found within their territory, shall ensure in accordance with applicable law that they are available for interview by the Commission if it so requests;

- All States shall freeze all funds, financial assets and economic resources that are on their territories that are owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by such individuals, or that are held by entities owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by such individuals or by persons acting on their behalf or at their direction; ensure that no

funds, financial assets or economic resources are made available by their nationals or by any persons within their territories to or for the benefit of such individuals or entities; and cooperate fully in accordance with applicable law with any international investigations related to the assets or financial transactions of such individuals, entities or persons acting on their behalf, including through the sharing of financial information;

(*b*) To establish, in accordance with rule 28 of its provisional rules of procedure, a Committee of the Security Council consisting of all the members of the Council to undertake the tasks described in the annex to the present resolution;

(*c*) That the Committee and any measures still in force under subparagraph (*a*) will terminate when the Committee reports to the Council that all investigative and judicial proceedings relating to this terrorist attack have been completed, unless otherwise decided by the Council;

4. *Determines* that the involvement of any State in this terrorist act would constitute a serious violation by that State of its obligations to work to prevent and refrain from supporting terrorism, in accordance, in particular, with resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1566 (2004), and that it would amount also to a serious violation of its obligation to respect the sovereignty and political independence of Lebanon;

5. *Takes note with extreme concern* of the conclusion of the Commission that, while the Syrian authorities have cooperated in form but not in substance with the Commission, several Syrian officials have tried to mislead the Commission by giving false or inaccurate information, and determines that continued lack of cooperation by the Syrian Arab Republic with the inquiry would constitute a serious violation of its obligations under relevant resolutions, including resolutions 1373 (2001), 1566 (2004) and 1595 (2005);

6. *Takes note* of the recent statement by the Syrian Arab Republic regarding its intention now to cooperate with the Commission, and expects the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to implement in full the commitments it is now making;

II

7. *Acknowledges* that continued assistance from the Commission to Lebanon, as requested by its Government in the letter dated 13 October 2005 to the Secretary-General[110] and recommended by the Commission in its report, remains necessary to elucidate fully all aspects of this heinous crime, thus enabling all those involved in the planning, sponsoring, organizing and perpetrating of this terrorist act, as well as their accomplices, to be identified and brought to justice;

8. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the decision of the Secretary-General to extend the mandate of the Commission until 15 December 2005, as authorized by the Council in its resolution 1595 (2005), and decides that it will extend the mandate further if recommended by the Commission and requested by the Government of Lebanon;

9. *Commends* the Lebanese authorities for the courageous decisions they have already taken in relation to the inquiry, including upon recommendation of the Commission, in particular the arrest and indictment of former Lebanese security officials suspected of involvement in this terrorist act, and encourages the Lebanese authorities to persist in their efforts with the same determination in order to get right to the bottom of this crime;

III

10. *Endorses* the conclusion of the Commission that it is incumbent upon the Syrian authorities to clarify a considerable part of the questions which remain unresolved;

11. *Decides*, in this context, that:

(*a*) The Syrian Arab Republic must detain those Syrian officials or individuals whom the Commission considers as suspected of involvement in the planning, sponsoring, organizing or perpetrating of this terrorist act, and make them fully available to the Commission;

(*b*) The Commission shall have vis-à-vis the Syrian Arab Republic the same rights and authorities as mentioned in paragraph 3 of resolution 1595 (2005), and the Syrian Arab Republic must cooperate with the Commission fully and unconditionally on that basis;

(*c*) The Commission shall have the authority to determine the location and modalities for interview of Syrian officials and individuals it deems relevant to the inquiry;

12. *Insists* that the Syrian Arab Republic not interfere in Lebanese domestic affairs, either directly or indirectly, refrain from any attempt aimed at destabilizing Lebanon, and respect scrupulously the sovereignty, territorial integrity, unity and political independence of that country;

IV

13. *Requests* the Commission to report to the Council on the progress of the inquiry by 15 December 2005, including on the cooperation received by the Commission from the Syrian authorities, or anytime before that date if the Commission deems that such cooperation does not meet the requirements of the present resolution, so that the Council, if necessary, can consider further action;

14. *Expresses its readiness* to consider any additional request for assistance from the Government of Lebanon to ensure that all those responsible for this crime are held accountable;

15. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

Adopted unanimously at the 5297th meeting.

Annex

The following are the functions of the Committee established pursuant to paragraph 3 of this resolution:

1. To register as subject to the measures in paragraph 3 (*a*) of this resolution an individual designated by the Commission or the Government of Lebanon, provided that within two working days of receipt of such designation no member of the Committee objects, in which case the Committee shall meet within fifteen days to determine the applicability of the measures in paragraph 3 (*a*).

2. To approve exceptions to the measures established in paragraph 3 (*a*) on a case-by-case basis:

(i) With respect to the travel restrictions, where the Committee determines that such travel is justified on the ground of humanitarian need, including religious obligation, or where the Committee concludes that an exemption would otherwise further the objectives of this resolution;

(ii) With respect to the freezing of funds and other economic resources, where the Committee determines that such exceptions are necessary for basic expenses, including payments for foodstuffs, rent or mortgage, medicines and medical treatment, taxes, insurance premiums, and public utility charges, or exclusively for payment of reasonable professional fees and reimbursement of incurred expenses associated with the provision of legal services, or fees or service charges for routine holding or maintenance of frozen funds or other financial assets or economic resources.

3. To register the removal of an individual from the scope of the measures in paragraph 3 (*a*) upon notification from the Commission or the Government of Lebanon that the individual is no longer suspected of involvement in this terrorist act, provided that within two working days of

receipt of such designation no member of the Committee objects, in which case the Committee shall meet within fifteen days to determine the removal of an individual from the scope of the measures in paragraph 3 (*a*).

4. To inform all Member States as to which individuals are subject to the measures in paragraph 3 (*a*).

Decisions

On 17 November 2005, the President of the Security Council addressed the following letter to the Secretary-General:[111]

> "I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 14 November 2005 concerning your decision to change the title of Mr. Geir Pedersen to Personal Representative of the Secretary-General for Lebanon and to expand his mandate to include coordination of United Nations political activities for the whole of Lebanon[112] has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the information and the decision contained in your letter."

At its 5320th meeting, on 12 December 2005, the Council decided to invite the representative of Lebanon to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East".

At the same meeting, following consultations among members of the Security Council, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:[113]

> "The Security Council condemns in the strongest terms the terrorist bombing on 12 December 2005 in the suburbs of Beirut that killed Lebanese member of Parliament, editor and journalist Gebrane Tueni, a patriot who was an outspoken symbol of freedom and the sovereignty and political independence of Lebanon, as well as three others. It expresses its deepest sympathy to the families of those killed and injured.
>
> "The Council reiterates its deepest concern about the destabilizing impact of political assassinations and other terrorist acts in Lebanon. It reiterates also its warning that the sponsors of today's and previous terrorist attacks against political leaders and leading members of civil society in Lebanon, whose obvious aim is to undermine Lebanon's security, stability, sovereignty, national unity, political independence and press freedom, will not be permitted to succeed and will finally be held accountable for their crimes.
>
> "The Council welcomes the determination and commitment of the Government of Lebanon to bring to justice all those responsible for this assassination and others before, and expresses its readiness to consider positively any request for assistance in this regard from the Government of Lebanon.
>
> "The Council reaffirms its resolution 1559 (2004), and reiterates once again its call for the strict respect of the sovereignty, territorial integrity, unity and political independence of Lebanon. The Council urges all States, in accordance with its resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1566 (2004), to cooperate fully in the fight against terrorism."

At its 5323rd meeting, on 13 December 2005, the Council decided to invite the representatives of Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled:

"The situation in the Middle East

> "Letter dated 12 December 2005 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2005/775)".

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[111] S/2005/726.

[112] S/2005/725.

[113] S/PRST/2005/61.

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council also decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Detlev Mehlis, Commissioner of the United Nations International Independent Investigation Commission.

At its 5329th meeting, on 15 December 2005, the Council decided to invite the representatives of Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled:

"The situation in the Middle East

"Letter dated 12 December 2005 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2005/775)".

Resolution 1644 (2005)
of 15 December 2005

The Security Council,

Reaffirming all its previous relevant resolutions, including resolutions 1595 (2005) of 7 April 2005, 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001 and 1566 (2004) of 8 October 2004, and reaffirming in particular resolution 1636 (2005) of 31 October 2005,

Reaffirming its strongest condemnation of the terrorist bombing of 14 February 2005, as well as of all other terrorist attacks in Lebanon since October 2004, and reaffirming also that all those involved in these attacks must be held accountable for their crimes,

Having examined carefully the report of the United Nations International Independent Investigation Commission ("the Commission") concerning its investigation into the terrorist bombing in Beirut on 14 February 2005 that killed former Prime Minister of Lebanon Rafiq Hariri and twenty-two others, and caused injury to dozens of people,[114]

Commending the Commission for the outstanding professional work it has accomplished under difficult circumstances in assisting the Lebanese authorities in their investigation of this terrorist act, and commending in particular Mr. Detlev Mehlis for his leadership in the discharge of his duties as the Head of the Commission and for his dedication to the cause of justice,

Reiterating its call upon all States to extend to the Lebanese authorities and to the Commission the assistance they may need and request in connection with the inquiry, and in particular to provide them with all relevant information they may possess pertaining to this terrorist attack,

Acknowledging the letter dated 5 December 2005 from the Prime Minister of Lebanon to the Secretary-General requesting that the mandate of the Commission be extended for a further period of six months, with a possibility of an additional extension as necessary, to enable the Commission to continue to assist the competent Lebanese authorities in the ongoing investigations of the crime, and to explore possible follow-up measures in order to bring the perpetrators of the said crime to justice,[115] and acknowledging also the concurrent recommendation of the Commission in that regard,

Acknowledging also the letter dated 13 December 2005 from the Prime Minister of Lebanon to the Secretary-General requesting the establishment of a tribunal of an international character to try all those who are found responsible for this terrorist crime and requesting also that the mandate

[114] S/2005/775, annex.

[115] S/2005/762, annex.

of the Commission be expanded or that another international investigation commission be created, to investigate the terrorist attacks that have taken place in Lebanon since 1 October 2004,[116]

Noting that Syrian authorities have made available Syrian officials for questioning, but deeply concerned at the Commission's assessment of Syrian performance to date, and noting that the Commission is still awaiting the provision of other requested materials from Syrian authorities,

Reaffirming its determination that this terrorist act and its implications constitute a threat to international peace and security,

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Commission;[114]

2. *Decides*, as recommended by the Commission and requested by the Government of Lebanon, to extend the mandate of the Commission, as set forth in resolutions 1595 (2005) and 1636 (2005), initially until 15 June 2006;

3. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the progress of the inquiry achieved since the last report of the Commission to the Security Council, and notes with extreme concern that, while the inquiry is not yet complete, it confirms its previous conclusions and that the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic has yet to provide the Commission with the full and unconditional cooperation demanded in resolution 1636 (2005);

4. *Underscores* the obligation and commitment of the Syrian Arab Republic to cooperate fully and unconditionally with the Commission, and specifically demands that the Syrian Arab Republic respond unambiguously and immediately in those areas adduced by the Commissioner and also that it implement without delay any future request of the Commission;

5. *Requests* the Commission to report to the Council on the progress of the inquiry every three months from the adoption of the present resolution, including on the cooperation received from the Syrian authorities, or anytime before that date if the Commission deems that such cooperation does not meet the requirements of the present resolution and of resolutions 1595 (2005) and 1636 (2005);

6. *Acknowledges* the request of the Government of Lebanon that those eventually charged with involvement in this terrorist attack be tried by a tribunal of an international character, requests the Secretary-General to help the Government of Lebanon to identify the nature and scope of the international assistance needed in this regard, and also requests the Secretary-General to report to the Council in a timely manner;

7. *Authorizes* the Commission, following the request of the Government of Lebanon, to extend its technical assistance, as appropriate, to the Lebanese authorities with regard to their investigations of the terrorist attacks perpetrated in Lebanon since 1 October 2004, and requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Commission and the Government of Lebanon, to present recommendations to expand the mandate of the Commission to include investigations of those other attacks;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Commission with the support and resources necessary for the discharge of its duties;

9. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

Adopted unanimously at the 5329th meeting.

[116] S/2005/783, annex.

Decision

At its 5339th meeting, on 21 December 2005, the Security Council considered the item entitled:

"The situation in the Middle East

"Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (S/2005/767)".

Resolution 1648 (2005)
of 21 December 2005

The Security Council,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 7 December 2005 on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force,[117] and reaffirming its resolution 1308 (2000) of 17 July 2000,

1. *Calls upon* the parties concerned to implement immediately its resolution 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973;

2. *Welcomes* the efforts being undertaken by the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force to implement the Secretary-General's zero-tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and abuse and to ensure full compliance of its personnel with the United Nations code of conduct, requests the Secretary-General to continue to take all necessary action in this regard and to keep the Security Council informed, and urges troop-contributing countries to take preventive and disciplinary action to ensure that such acts are properly investigated and punished in cases involving their personnel;

3. *Decides* to renew the mandate of the Force for a period of six months, that is, until 30 June 2006;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit, at the end of this period, a report on developments in the situation and the measures taken to implement resolution 338 (1973).

Adopted unanimously at the 5339th meeting.

Decisions

At the 5339th meeting also, following the adoption of resolution 1648 (2005), the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:[118]

"In connection with the resolution just adopted on the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, I have been authorized to make the following complementary statement on behalf of the Security Council:

'As is known, the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force[117] states in paragraph 12: "... the situation in the Middle East is very tense and is likely to remain so, unless and until a comprehensive settlement covering all aspects of the Middle East problem can be reached". That statement of the Secretary-General reflects the view of the Security Council.'"

On 13 January 2006, the President of the Security Council addressed the following letter to the Secretary-General:[119]

[117] S/2005/767.

[118] S/PRST/2005/65.

[119] S/2006/18.

"I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 11 January 2006 concerning your intention to appoint Mr. Serge Brammertz, of Belgium, as the Commissioner of the United Nations International Independent Investigation Commission established following the assassination of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafiq Hariri, in accordance with resolutions 1595 (2005) and 1644 (2005),[120] has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the intention expressed in your letter."

At its 5352nd meeting, on 23 January 2006, the Council considered the item entitled:

"The situation in the Middle East

"Letter dated 26 October 2005 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2005/673)".

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Terje Roed-Larsen, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1559 (2004).

At the same meeting, following consultations among members of the Security Council, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:[121]

"The Security Council recalls all its previous resolutions on Lebanon, in particular resolutions 1559 (2004), 425 (1978), 426 (1978), 520 (1982) and 1614 (2005), as well as the statements by its President on the situation in Lebanon, in particular the statements of 18 June 2000,[122] 19 October 2004[123] and 4 May 2005.[124]

"The Council reaffirms its strong support for the sovereignty, territorial integrity, unity and political independence of Lebanon, as well as for the freedom of its press.

"The Council welcomes the second semi-annual report of the Secretary-General to the Council, of 26 October 2005, on the implementation of Council resolution 1559 (2004).[125]

"The Council notes that significant further progress has been made towards the implementation of resolution 1559 (2004), in particular through the withdrawal of Syrian forces from Lebanon and the holding of free and credible parliamentary elections in May and June 2005, but it notes also with regret that other provisions of resolution 1559 (2004) have yet to be implemented, particularly the disbanding and disarming of Lebanese and non-Lebanese militias and the extension of government control over all Lebanese territory, and free and fair presidential elections conducted according to the Lebanese constitutional rules, without foreign interference and influence.

"In this context, the Council commends the Government of Lebanon for the dialogue it initiated in October 2005 with representatives of Lebanese and non-Lebanese militias, for the steps it has taken towards restoring fully its authority throughout its territory and for its stated willingness to establish full diplomatic relations and representation and to demarcate the border between Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic. The Council calls upon the Government of Lebanon to sustain its efforts to achieve progress on all these issues in accordance with resolution 1559 (2004) and to pursue a broad national dialogue, and the Council calls upon all other parties concerned, in particular the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic, to cooperate to this end.

[120] S/2006/17.
[121] S/PRST/2006/3.
[122] S/PRST/2000/21.
[123] S/PRST/2004/36.
[124] S/PRST/2005/17.
[125] See S/2005/673.

"The Council notes with concern the suggestion in the report that there have been movements of arms and people into Lebanese territory and, in this context, commends the Government of Lebanon for undertaking measures against such movements and calls upon the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to undertake similar measures.

"The Council condemns the continued terrorist attacks in Lebanon, which have resulted in the death or injury of scores of Lebanese citizens, including several prominent Lebanese figures, as part of a deliberate strategy to destabilize the country and to intimidate the Lebanese people, their Government and their media.

"The Council warns that those responsible for such crimes must be held fully accountable and will not be permitted to jeopardize the stability, democracy and national unity of Lebanon.

"The Council reiterates its call for the full implementation of all requirements of resolution 1559 (2004), and urges all concerned parties to cooperate fully with the Council and the Secretary-General to achieve this goal.

"The Council commends the Secretary-General as well as his Special Envoy for their efforts and dedication to facilitate and assist in the implementation of all provisions of resolution 1559 (2004)."

At its 5362nd meeting, on 31 January 2006, the Council considered the item entitled:

"The situation in the Middle East

"Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (S/2006/26)".

Resolution 1655 (2006)
of 31 January 2006

The Security Council,

Recalling all its previous resolutions on Lebanon, including resolutions 425 (1978) and 426 (1978) of 19 March 1978 and 1614 (2005) of 29 July 2005, as well as the statements by its President on the situation in Lebanon, in particular the statement of 18 June 2000,[122]

Recalling also the letter dated 18 May 2001 from its President to the Secretary-General,[126]

Recalling further the conclusion of the Secretary-General that, as of 16 June 2000, Israel had withdrawn its forces from Lebanon in accordance with resolution 425 (1978) and met the requirements defined in the report of the Secretary-General of 22 May 2000,[127] as well as the conclusion of the Secretary-General that the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon had essentially completed two of the three parts of its mandate, focusing now on the remaining task of restoring international peace and security,

Reaffirming that the Security Council has recognized the Blue Line as valid for the purpose of confirming the withdrawal of Israel pursuant to resolution 425 (1978) and that the Blue Line must be respected in its entirety,

Gravely concerned at the persistence of tension and violence along the Blue Line, including the hostilities initiated by Hizbollah on 21 November 2005 and those triggered by the firing of rockets from Lebanon into Israel on 27 December 2005, which demonstrated once more that the situation remains volatile and fragile and underlined yet again the urgent need for the Government of Lebanon to fully extend its authority and exert control and monopoly over the use of force

[126] S/2001/500.

[127] S/2000/460.

throughout its territory, as outlined in the report of the Secretary-General of 18 January 2006, [128] and concerned also by the continuing Israeli violations of Lebanese airspace,

Recalling its resolution 1308 (2000) of 17 July 2000,

Recalling also its resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000,

Recalling further the relevant principles contained in the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel of 9 December 1994,[129]

Responding to the request of the Government of Lebanon to extend the mandate of the Force for a new period of six months, presented in the letter dated 9 January 2006 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General,[130]

1. *Endorses* the report of the Secretary-General of 18 January 2006 on the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon;[128]

2. *Decides* to extend the present mandate until 31 July 2006, while emphasizing the interim nature of the Force and looking forward to the early fulfilment of its mandate;

3. *Reiterates its strong support* for the territorial integrity, sovereignty and political independence of Lebanon within its internationally recognized boundaries and under the sole and exclusive authority of the Government of Lebanon;

4. *Condemns* all acts of violence, including the latest serious incidents across the Blue Line initiated from the Lebanese side that have resulted in deaths and injuries on both sides, expresses great concern about the serious breaches and the sea, land and continuing aforementioned air violations of the withdrawal line, and urges the parties to put an end to these violations, to refrain from any act of provocation that could further escalate the tension and to abide scrupulously by their obligation to respect the safety of the Force and other United Nations personnel, including by avoiding any course of action which endangers United Nations personnel;

5. *Reiterates its call upon* the parties to continue to fulfil the commitments they have given to respect fully the entire withdrawal line identified by the United Nations, as set out in the report of Secretary-General of 16 June 2000,[131] and to exercise utmost restraint;

6. *Reiterates its call upon* the Government of Lebanon to fully extend and exercise its sole and effective authority throughout the south;

7. *Welcomes* the steps undertaken recently by the Government of Lebanon to strengthen the liaison between its armed forces and the Force, including the establishment of a Lebanese Armed Forces liaison office at Force headquarters in Naqoura, the appointment of liaison officers to the field battalions of the Force, and the appointment of a new government coordinator with the Force, and acknowledges the firm intention of the Government of Lebanon to preserve the security and, to that end, to reinforce the presence of its armed forces in the southern region and to coordinate their activities with the Force;

8. *Urges*, nevertheless, the Government of Lebanon to do more to assert its authority in the south, to exert control and monopoly over the use of force and to maintain law and order on its entire territory and to prevent attacks from Lebanon across the Blue Line, including by deploying additional numbers of Lebanese Armed Forces and Internal Security Forces and taking up the proposals of the Force to enhance coordination between those forces and the Force on the ground and establishing a joint planning cell, as recommended by the Secretary-General in his report;[128]

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[128] S/2006/26.

[129] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2051, No. 35457.

[130] S/2006/15.

[131] S/2000/590 and Corr.1.

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to work with the Government of Lebanon to reinforce its authority in the south, and in particular to facilitate the early implementation of the measures contained in paragraph 8 above;

10. *Supports* the continued efforts of the Force to maintain the ceasefire along the withdrawal line consistent with its remaining task, while stressing the primary responsibility of the parties in this regard, and encourages the Force to focus also on assisting the Government of Lebanon to assert its authority in the south;

11. *Welcomes* the continued contribution of the Force to operational mine clearance, encourages further assistance in mine action by the United Nations to the Government of Lebanon in support of both the continued development of its national mine action capacity and clearance of the remaining mine/unexploded ordnance threat in the south, commends donor countries for supporting those efforts through financial and in-kind contributions and encourages further international contributions, and stresses the necessity for the provision to the Government of Lebanon and the Force of any additional existing maps and minefield records;

12. *Calls upon* the parties to ensure that the Force is accorded full freedom of movement throughout its area of operation as outlined in the report of the Secretary-General,[128] requests the Force to report any obstruction it may face in the discharge of its mandate, and reiterates its call upon the parties to cooperate fully with the United Nations and the Force;

13. *Welcomes* the efforts being undertaken by the Force to implement the Secretary-General's zero-tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and abuse and to ensure full compliance of its personnel with the United Nations code of conduct, requests the Secretary-General to continue to take all necessary action in this regard and to keep the Security Council informed, and urges troop-contributing countries to take appropriate preventive action including conducting predeployment awareness training, and to take disciplinary action and other action to ensure full accountability in cases of such conduct involving their personnel;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue consultations with the Government of Lebanon and other parties directly concerned on the implementation of the present resolution and to report thereon to the Council before the end of the present mandate as well as on the activities of the Force and the tasks presently carried out by the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization, and to include in the report an assessment of the progress made by the Government of Lebanon towards extending its sole and effective authority throughout the south;

15. *Expresses its intention* to keep the mandate and structures of the Force under regular review, taking into account the prevailing situation on the ground, the activities actually performed by the Force in its area of operation, its contribution towards the remaining task of restoring international peace and security, the views of the Government of Lebanon and the measures it has taken to fully extend its authority in the south as well as the implications those measures may have, in order to adjust the Force to its mission;

16. *Stresses* the importance of, and the need to achieve, a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East, based on all its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967 and 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973.

Adopted unanimously at the 5362nd meeting.

Decisions

On 13 February 2006, the President of the Security Council addressed the following letter to the Secretary-General:[132]

> "I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 8 February 2006 concerning your intention to add India to the list of countries that have agreed to provide military personnel to the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force [133] has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the intention expressed in your letter."

At its 5388th meeting, on 16 March 2006, the Council decided to invite the representatives of Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled:

"The situation in the Middle East

> "Letter dated 14 March 2006 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2006/161)".

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council also decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Serge Brammertz, Commissioner of the United Nations International Independent Investigation Commission.

At its 5401st meeting, on 29 March 2006, the Council decided to invite the Acting Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants of Lebanon to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled:

"The situation in the Middle East

> "Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 6 of resolution 1644 (2005) (S/2006/176)".

Resolution 1664 (2006) of 29 March 2006

The Security Council,

Recalling all its previous relevant resolutions, in particular resolutions 1595 (2005) of 7 April 2005, 1636 (2005) of 31 October 2005 and 1644 (2005) of 15 December 2005,

Reiterating its call for the strict respect of the sovereignty, territorial integrity, unity and political independence of Lebanon under the sole and exclusive authority of the Government of Lebanon,

Mindful of the demand of the Lebanese people that all those responsible for the terrorist bombing that killed former Prime Minister of Lebanon Rafiq Hariri and others be identified and brought to justice,

Recalling the letter dated 13 December 2005 from the Prime Minister of Lebanon to the Secretary-General requesting, inter alia, the establishment of a tribunal of an international character to try all those who are found responsible for this terrorist crime,[116] and recalling its request to the Secretary-General, in resolution 1644 (2005), to help the Government of Lebanon to identify the nature and scope of the international assistance needed in this regard,

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[132] S/2006/101.

[133] S/2006/100.

Having examined the report of 21 March 2006 submitted by the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 6 of resolution 1644 (2005),[134] and welcoming the common understanding reached between the Secretariat and the Lebanese authorities on the key issues regarding the establishment and the main features of a possible tribunal,

Willing to continue to assist Lebanon in the search for the truth and in holding all those involved in this terrorist attack accountable,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General,[134] and requests him to negotiate an agreement with the Government of Lebanon aimed at establishing a tribunal of an international character based on the highest international standards of criminal justice, taking into account the recommendations contained in his report and the views that have been expressed by members of the Security Council;

2. *Acknowledges* that the adoption of the legal basis of, and framework for, the tribunal would not prejudice the gradual phasing-in of its various components and would not predetermine the timing of the commencement of its operations, which will depend on the progress of the investigation;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to update the Council on the progress of the negotiation as he deems appropriate and to submit in a timely manner for the consideration of the Council a report on the implementation of the present resolution, in particular on the draft agreement negotiated with the Government of Lebanon, including options for a funding mechanism appropriate to ensure the continued and effective functioning of the tribunal;

4. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

Adopted unanimously at the 5401st meeting.

Decisions

On 18 April 2006, the President of the Security Council addressed the following letter to the Secretary-General:[135]

> "I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 13 April 2006 concerning your intention to add China to the list of countries that have agreed to provide military personnel to the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon[136] has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the intention expressed in your letter."

At its 5417th meeting, on 21 April 2006, the Council decided to invite the Prime Minister of Lebanon and the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East".

At its 5418th meeting, held in private on 21 April 2006, the Council decided to authorize its President to issue through the Secretary-General the following communiqué, in accordance with rule 55 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council:

> "At its 5418th meeting, held in private on 21 April 2006, the Security Council considered the item entitled 'The situation in the Middle East'.
>
> "Pursuant to the decision taken at the 5417th meeting, on 21 April 2006, the President, with the consent of the Council, extended an invitation under rule 37 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council to Mr. Fouad Siniora, Prime Minister of Lebanon.

[134] S/2006/176.

[135] S/2006/246.

[136] S/2006/245.

"Members of the Council and the Prime Minister of Lebanon had an exchange of views."

At its 5440th meeting, on 17 May 2006, the Council decided to invite the representative of Lebanon to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled:

"The situation in the Middle East

"Letter dated 18 April 2006 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2006/248)".

Resolution 1680 (2006)
of 17 May 2006

The Security Council,

Recalling all its previous resolutions on Lebanon, in particular resolutions 425 (1978) and 426 (1978) of 19 March 1978, 520 (1982) of 17 September 1982, 1559 (2004) of 2 September 2004 and 1655 (2006) of 31 January 2006, as well as the statements by its President on the situation in Lebanon, in particular the statements of 18 June 2000,[122] 19 October 2004,[123] 4 May 2005[124] and 23 January 2006,[121]

Reiterating its strong support for the territorial integrity, sovereignty and political independence of Lebanon within its internationally recognized borders,

Noting positively that further significant progress has been made towards implementing in full all provisions of resolution 1559 (2004), in particular through the Lebanese national dialogue, but noting with regret that other provisions of resolution 1559 (2004) have not yet been fully implemented, namely the disbanding and disarming of Lebanese and non-Lebanese militias, the extension of the control of the Government of Lebanon over all its territory, the strict respect of the sovereignty, territorial integrity, unity and political independence of Lebanon, and free and fair presidential elections conducted according to the Lebanese constitutional rules, without foreign interference and influence,

Noting with concern the conclusion contained in the report of the Secretary-General[137] that there had been movements of arms into Lebanese territory for militias over the last six months,

Expressing full support for the Lebanese national dialogue, and commending all Lebanese parties for its conduct and for the consensus reached in this context on important matters,

Having heard the address by the Prime Minister of Lebanon to the Security Council on 21 April 2006,[138]

1. *Welcomes* the third semi-annual report of the Secretary-General to the Security Council of 18 April 2006 on the implementation of resolution 1559 (2004);[137]

2. *Reiterates its call for* the full implementation of all requirements of resolution 1559 (2004);

3. *Reiterates its call upon* all concerned States and parties, as mentioned in the report, to cooperate fully with the Government of Lebanon, the Security Council and the Secretary-General to achieve this goal;

4. *Strongly encourages* the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to respond positively to the request made by the Government of Lebanon, in line with the agreements of the Lebanese national dialogue, to delineate their common border, especially in those areas where the border is uncertain or disputed, and to establish full diplomatic relations and representation, noting

[137] See S/2006/248.

[138] See S/PV.5417.

that such measures would constitute a significant step towards asserting the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of Lebanon and improving the relations between the two countries, thus contributing positively to stability in the region, and urges both parties to make efforts through further bilateral dialogue to this end, bearing in mind that the establishment of diplomatic relations between States, and of permanent diplomatic missions, takes place by mutual consent;

5. *Commends* the Government of Lebanon for undertaking measures against movements of arms into Lebanese territory, and calls upon the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to take similar measures;

6. *Welcomes* the decision of the Lebanese national dialogue to disarm Palestinian militias outside refugee camps within six months, supports its implementation, and calls for further efforts to disband and disarm all Lebanese and non-Lebanese militias and to restore fully the Government of Lebanon's control over all Lebanese territory;

7. *Reiterates its support* to the Secretary-General and his Special Envoy in their efforts and dedication to facilitate and assist in the implementation of all provisions of resolution 1559 (2004);

8. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

Adopted at the 5440th meeting
by 13 votes to none, with 2 abstentions
(China and Russian Federation).

Decision

At its 5456th meeting, on 13 June 2006, the Security Council considered the item entitled:

"The situation in the Middle East

"Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (S/2006/333)".

Resolution 1685 (2006)
of 13 June 2006

The Security Council,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 1 June 2006 on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force,[139] and reaffirming its resolution 1308 (2000) of 17 July 2000,

1. *Calls upon* the parties concerned to implement immediately its resolution 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973;

2. *Welcomes* the efforts being undertaken by the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force to implement the Secretary-General's zero-tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and abuse and to ensure full compliance of its personnel with the United Nations code of conduct, requests the Secretary-General to continue to take all necessary action in this regard and to keep the Security Council informed, and urges troop-contributing countries to take preventive and disciplinary action to ensure that such acts are properly investigated and punished in cases involving their personnel;

3. *Decides* to renew the mandate of the Force for a period of six months, that is, until 31 December 2006;

[139] S/2006/333.

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit, at the end of this period, a report on developments in the situation and the measures taken to implement resolution 338 (1973).

Adopted unanimously at the 5456th meeting.

Decisions

At the 5456th meeting also, following the adoption of resolution 1685 (2006), the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:[140]

> "In connection with the resolution just adopted on the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, I have been authorized to make the following complementary statement on behalf of the Security Council:
>
> > 'As is known, the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force[139] states in paragraph 12: "... the situation in the Middle East is very tense and is likely to remain so, unless and until a comprehensive settlement covering all aspects of the Middle East problem can be reached". That statement of the Secretary-General reflects the view of the Security Council.' "

At its 5458th meeting, on 14 June 2006, the Council decided to invite the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants of Lebanon and the Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Syrian Arab Republic to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled:

"The situation in the Middle East

> "Letter dated 10 June 2006 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2006/375)".

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council also decided to extend an invitation, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Serge Brammertz, Commissioner of the United Nations International Independent Investigation Commission.

At its 5461st meeting, on 15 June 2006, the Council decided to invite the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants of Lebanon to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled:

"The situation in the Middle East

> "Letter dated 10 June 2006 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2006/375)".

Resolution 1686 (2006)
of 15 June 2006

The Security Council,

Recalling all its previous relevant resolutions, in particular resolutions 1595 (2005) of 7 April 2005, 1636 (2005) of 31 October 2005, 1644 (2005) of 15 December 2005, 1664 (2006) of 29 March 2006, 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001 and 1566 (2004) of 8 October 2004,

Reaffirming its strongest condemnation of the terrorist bombing of 14 February 2005, as well as of all other attacks in Lebanon since October 2004, and reaffirming also that those involved in these attacks must be held accountable for their crimes,

[140] S/PRST/2006/26.

Having examined the report of the United Nations International Independent Investigation Commission ("the Commission"), submitted pursuant to resolutions 1595 (2005), 1636 (2005) and 1644 (2005),[141]

Commending the Commission for the outstanding professional work it continues to accomplish under difficult circumstances in assisting the Lebanese authorities in their investigation of all aspects of this terrorist act, and taking note of the conclusion of the Commission that, while significant progress has been made, the investigation is not yet complete,

Taking note of the letter dated 4 May 2006 from the Prime Minister of Lebanon to the Secretary-General requesting that the mandate of the Commission be extended for a further period of up to one year from 15 June 2006,[142] and noting the concurrent recommendation of the Commission in that regard,

Recalling its request to the Secretary-General, in resolution 1644 (2005), to submit recommendations with regard to the request of the Government of Lebanon to expand the mandate of the Commission to the other terrorist attacks perpetrated in Lebanon since 1 October 2004,

Willing to continue to assist Lebanon in the search for the truth and in holding all those involved in this terrorist attack accountable,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Commission;[141]

2. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Commission until 15 June 2007;

3. *Supports* the intention of the Commission, as it deems appropriate and consistent with its mandate, to extend further its technical assistance to the Lebanese authorities with regard to their investigations into the other terrorist attacks perpetrated in Lebanon since 1 October 2004, and requests the Secretary-General to provide the Commission with the support and resources needed in this regard;

4. *Requests* the Commission to continue to report to the Security Council on the progress of the investigation on a quarterly basis, or at any other time as it deems appropriate;

5. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

Adopted unanimously at the 5461st meeting.

Decisions

At its 5489th meeting, on 14 July 2006, the Security Council decided to invite the representatives of Israel and Lebanon to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled:

"The situation in the Middle East

"Letter dated 13 July 2006 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2006/517)".

At the same meeting, in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council also decided to extend invitations, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, to Mr. Jean-Marie Guéhenno, Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, and Mr. Ibrahim Gambari, Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs.

[141] S/2006/375, annex.

[142] S/2006/278, annex.

On 19 July 2006, the President of the Security Council addressed the following letter to the Secretary-General:[143]

> "I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 14 July 2006 concerning your intention to extend until 31 December 2006 the appointment of Mr. Serge Brammertz as the Commissioner of the United Nations International Independent Investigation Commission established pursuant to resolution 1595 (2005) following the assassination of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafiq Hariri[144] has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the intention expressed in your letter."

At its 5492nd meeting, on 20 July 2006, the Council considered the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East".

At its 5497th meeting, on 27 July 2006, the Council decided to invite the representatives of Austria, Canada and Finland to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East".

At the same meeting, following consultations among members of the Security Council, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:[145]

> "The Security Council is deeply shocked and distressed by the firing by the Israel Defense Forces on a United Nations observer post in southern Lebanon on 25 July 2006, which caused the death of four United Nations military observers.
>
> "The Council extends its deepest condolences to the families of those victims and expresses its sympathies to the Governments of Austria, Canada, China and Finland.
>
> "The Council calls upon the Government of Israel to conduct a comprehensive inquiry into this incident, taking into account any relevant material from United Nations authorities, and to make the results public as soon as possible.
>
> "The Council is deeply concerned about the safety and security of United Nations personnel and, in this regard, stresses that Israel and all concerned parties must comply fully with their obligations under international humanitarian law related to the protection of United Nations and associated personnel and underlines the importance of ensuring that United Nations personnel are not the object of attack.
>
> "The Council expresses its deep concern for Lebanese and Israeli civilian casualties and suffering, the destruction of civil infrastructure and the rising number of internally displaced people.
>
> "The Council will remain seized of this matter."

At its 5498th meeting, on 30 July 2006, the Council decided to invite the representatives of Israel and Lebanon to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East".

At its 5499th meeting, on 30 July 2006, the Council, in accordance with the decision taken at the 5498th meeting, decided to invite the representatives of Israel and Lebanon to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East".

At the same meeting, following consultations among members of the Security Council, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:[146]

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[143] S/2006/542.

[144] S/2006/541.

[145] S/PRST/2006/34.

[146] S/PRST/2006/35.

"The Security Council expresses its extreme shock and distress at the shelling by the Israel Defense Forces of a residential building in Qana, in southern Lebanon, which has caused the killing of dozens of civilians, mostly children, and injured many others. The Council sends its deepest condolences to the families of the victims and to the Lebanese people.

"The Council strongly deplores this loss of innocent lives and the killing of civilians in the present conflict and requests the Secretary-General to report to it within one week on the circumstances of this tragic incident.

"The Council expresses its concern at the threat of escalation of violence with further grave consequences for the humanitarian situation, calls for an end to violence, and underscores the urgency of securing a lasting, permanent and sustainable ceasefire.

"The Council expresses again its utmost concern at the Lebanese and Israeli civilian casualties and human suffering, the widespread destruction of civilian infrastructure, and the increased number of internally displaced persons.

"The Council urges all parties to grant immediate and unlimited access to humanitarian assistance.

"The Council deplores any action against United Nations personnel and calls for full respect for the safety and security of all United Nations personnel and premises.

"The Council affirms its determination to work without any further delay to adopt a resolution for a lasting settlement of the crisis, drawing on diplomatic efforts under way.

"The Council remains seized of the matter."

At its 5501st meeting, on 31 July 2006, the Council considered the item entitled:

"The situation in the Middle East

"Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (S/2006/560)".

Resolution 1697 (2006)
of 31 July 2006

The Security Council,

Recalling all its previous resolutions on Lebanon, including resolutions 425 (1978) and 426 (1978) of 19 March 1978 and 1655 (2006) of 31 January 2006 as well as the statements by its President on the situation in Lebanon, in particular the statement of 18 June 2000,[122]

Expressing deepest concern at the escalation of hostilities in Lebanon and Israel since 12 July 2006,

Taking note of the letter dated 7 July 2006 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations conveying to the Secretary-General the request that the Security Council extend the mandate of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon for a further period of six months,[147]

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General of 21 July 2006 on the Force,[148] including the observations contained therein that, as a result of the continuing hostilities along the Blue Line, the Force has been impeded from carrying out its activities effectively, and noting in this context the recommendation of the Secretary-General that the mandate of the Force be

[147] S/2006/496.
[148] S/2006/560.

extended for a period of one month pending consideration of other options for future arrangements in south Lebanon,

1. *Urges* all concerned parties to abide scrupulously by their obligation to respect the safety of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon and other United Nations personnel, and avoid any course of action which might endanger United Nations personnel, and calls upon them to allow the Force to resupply its positions, conduct search and rescue operations on behalf of its personnel and undertake any other measures that the Force deems necessary to ensure the safety of its personnel;

2. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Force until 31 August 2006;

3. *Decides also* to remain actively seized of the matter.

Adopted unanimously at the 5501st meeting.

Decision

At its 5503rd meeting, on 31 July 2006, the Security Council decided to invite the representative of Israel and the Minister of Culture and Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Lebanon to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled:

"The situation in the Middle East

"Letter dated 31 July 2006 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2006/596)".

THE SITUATION CONCERNING THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO[149]

Decisions

On 26 August 2005, the President of the Security Council addressed the following letter to the Secretary-General:[150]

"I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 22 August 2005 concerning your intention to commence immediately the provision of logistical support to the electoral process in the Democratic Republic of the Congo[151] has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the information contained in your letter and welcome the intention expressed therein."

At its 5255th meeting, on 6 September 2005, the Council decided to invite the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled:

"The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo

"Special report of the Secretary-General on elections in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (S/2005/320 and Add.1)".

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[149] Resolutions or decisions on this question have been adopted by the Security Council every year since 1997.

[150] S/2005/544.

[151] S/2005/543.

Resolution 1621 (2005) of 6 September 2005

The Security Council,

Recalling its previous resolutions and the statements by its President concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular resolutions 1565 (2004) of 1 October 2004 and 1592 (2005) of 30 March 2005 and the statement of 29 June 2005,[152]

Reaffirming its commitment to respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of the Democratic Republic of the Congo as well as of all States in the region, and its support for the process of the Global and All-Inclusive Agreement on the Transition in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, signed at Pretoria on 17 December 2002,

Underlining the importance of elections as the foundation for the longer-term restoration of peace and stability, national reconciliation and establishment of the rule of law in the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Calling upon the transitional institutions and all Congolese parties to ensure that free, fair and peaceful elections take place and that the timetable for polls developed by the Independent Electoral Commission is scrupulously respected,

Paying tribute to the donor community for the assistance they provide to the electoral process in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and encouraging them to maintain it,

Welcoming the interest and commitment shown by the Congolese authorities to promote good governance and transparent economic management, and encouraging them to continue their efforts in this regard,

Reiterating its serious concern regarding the continuation of hostilities by armed groups and militias in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, at the violations of human rights and of international humanitarian law that accompany them, and at the threat they pose to the holding of elections in the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Taking note of the special report of the Secretary-General of 26 May 2005 on elections in the Democratic Republic of the Congo[153] and of the recommendations contained therein,

Noting that the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security in the region,

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Approves* the recommendations and the concept of operations described in paragraphs 50 to 57 of the special report of the Secretary-General,[153] and authorizes an increase in the strength of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo of 841 personnel, including up to five formed police units of 125 officers each and the additional police personnel;

2. *Underlines* the temporary character of the deployments referred to in paragraph 1 above, and requests the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps with a view to downsizing or repatriating these additional personnel from 1 July 2006 at the latest, and to report to the Security Council before 1 June 2006 on the assessment mentioned in paragraph 47 of his special report;

3. *Approves* the recommendation made by the Secretary-General in paragraphs 58 and 59 of his special report, and authorizes the Mission, in accordance with that recommendation and with its mandate as defined in paragraphs 5 (*f*) and 7 (*c*) of resolution 1565 (2004), and acting in

[152] S/PRST/2005/27.

[153] S/2005/320.

close coordination with the United Nations Development Programme, to provide additional support to the Independent Electoral Commission for the transport of electoral materials;

4. *Encourages* the Mission, within its capacity and in accordance with its mandate, to provide advice and assistance as well as the necessary support to the setting up by the Transitional Government, international financial institutions and donors of an arrangement to strengthen support for good governance and transparent economic management;

5. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

Adopted unanimously at the 5255th meeting.

Decision

At its 5272nd meeting, on 30 September 2005, the Security Council decided to invite the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled:

"The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo

"Nineteenth report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (S/2005/603)".

Resolution 1628 (2005)
of 30 September 2005

The Security Council,

Recalling its resolutions on the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular resolutions 1565 (2004) of 1 October 2004, 1592 (2005) of 30 March 2005, 1596 (2005) of 18 April 2005 and 1621 (2005) of 6 September 2005,

Reaffirming its commitment to respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and its readiness to support the peace and national reconciliation process in that country, in particular through the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Noting that the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security in the region,

1. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, as contained in resolutions 1565 (2004), 1592 (2005), 1596 (2005) and 1621 (2005), adopted under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, until 31 October 2005;

2. *Decides also* to remain seized of the matter.

Adopted unanimously at the 5272nd meeting.

Decisions

At its 5275th meeting, on 4 October 2005, the Security Council decided to invite the representatives of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda and Uganda to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled "The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo".

At the same meeting, following consultations among members of the Security Council, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:[154]

[154] S/PRST/2005/46.

"The Security Council takes note of the report of the Secretary-General of 26 September 2005 on the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.[155] It expresses its concern over the presence of foreign armed groups which continue to pose a serious threat to stability in the eastern part of the country.

"The Council deplores in this regard the failure of the Forces démocratiques de libération du Rwanda to proceed with the disarmament and repatriation of their combatants, and exhorts them to do so without further delay and in accordance with the declaration that they signed at Rome on 31 March 2005.

"The Council recognizes the attached decision, taken on 16 September 2005 by the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi, acting within the framework of the Tripartite Plus Joint Commission, to set the deadline of 30 September 2005 for the Forces démocratiques de libération du Rwanda to disarm or otherwise to face measures intended to compel them to do so. The Forces démocratiques de libération du Rwanda can no longer remain as an armed group in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

"The Council demands that the Forces démocratiques de libération du Rwanda seize this opportunity to proceed voluntarily with their disarmament and return to Rwanda without any delay or preconditions.

"The Council commends the political and military pressure placed on the Forces démocratiques de libération du Rwanda by the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

"The Council welcomes the steps taken by the Government of Rwanda, with the support of the international community, to peacefully repatriate members of the Forces démocratiques de libération du Rwanda returning to Rwanda, in accordance with the applicable norms of international law and with respect for the rights and freedoms of the human person. The Council encourages the Government of Rwanda to continue to give the widest publicity to its commitments.

"The Council demands the full cooperation of the Forces démocratiques de libération du Rwanda with the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda,[156] particularly with regard to the arrest and transfer of indictees who remain at large.

"Moreover, the Council notes with concern the incursion of members of the Lord's Resistance Army into the Democratic Republic of the Congo and welcomes the intention of the Congolese armed forces to disarm this group in cooperation with the Mission and in accordance with the mandate of the Mission as set out in resolution 1565 (2004).

"Further, the Council calls upon all armed groups in the Great Lakes region of Africa to act without delay to lay down their arms and join the processes of political transition under way in the region.

"The Council calls upon the States of the region to deepen their cooperation with a view to putting an end to the activities of illegal armed groups. It recalls its adherence to respect for the sovereignty of all States and underlines that any recourse to the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity of a State is contrary to the purposes and principles set out in the Charter of the United Nations."

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[155] S/2005/603.

[156] International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994.

Attachment

Tripartite Plus Joint Commission Ministerial

Waldorf Astoria Hotel

New York

16 September 2005

Summary of decisions

Members of the Tripartite Commission commended Burundi's successful political transition, officially welcomed Burundi as a full participant and adopted the new name Tripartite Plus Joint Commission.

The Tripartite Plus members:

- Reiterated their commitment to prevent negative elements from using their respective territories to destabilize neighbouring countries;
- Agreed to continue military and political pressure on the Forces démocratiques de libération du Rwanda (FDLR) to ensure that it fulfils its commitment to disarm and repatriate;
- Agreed to continue military and diplomatic pressure on all other militias to ensure their disarmament and repatriation or reintegration;
- Agreed to retain 30 September 2005 as the deadline for voluntary disarmament and repatriation or reintegration of FDLR combatants and that failure to do so would trigger the imposition of sanctions;
- Agreed that the Tripartite Joint Commission has contributed to the reduction of tension in the Great Lakes region and that additional confidence-building measures are necessary to bring stability to the area, including:
  - Authorization by the Democratic Republic of the Congo of a Ugandan office in Beni to encourage, in conjunction with the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the disarmament and repatriation or reintegration of the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), the National Army for the Liberation of Uganda (NALU) and the People's Redemption Army (PRA);
  - Consideration of how to extradite Mutebutsi, Nkunda and other leaders of armed groups;
  - Articulation of the mechanisms the United States of America and the European Union should employ against all militias operating in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo by Tripartite members;
- Agreed to have the European Union, in conjunction with the Government of Rwanda, draft an information package for distribution to FDLR that outlines measures to encourage their disarmament and repatriation or reintegration;
- Welcomed the African Union's announcement of plans for an October reconnaissance mission that will lead to recommendations on how to proceed with the establishment of an African Union force in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo;
- Welcomed the continued effort of the international community to augment and build the capacity of the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (FARDC) in order to bring stability to eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo;